

## MARK OF A DISCIPLE

Disciples of Christ have a story of Christ

## SCRIPTURE

JOHN 4:4-18; 4:25-30; 4:39-42

## BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

Jesus does two really remarkable things in this story. He doesn't avoid Samaria like the rest of the Jews and he has a conversation with a woman in the middle of the day. Though this doesn't seem like much, it would have been a shock to the people around Jesus. Jesus uses this story to show that there is power when we are confronted with the grace of God and the truth of our sin. This woman is in awe of Jesus in her encounter with him and goes to tell the people she was avoiding all that Jesus told her. Her testimony led the entire city to seek out Jesus and ultimately, believe in Jesus for themselves.

**FACILITATOR NOTE:** We're giving you a lot of teaching material. Don't feel like you should cover everything here. You know your group better than anyone. Choose the material that will best fit your students and skip over the rest.



## BELONG

## OPENING QUESTIONS

3–5 minutes

- How was the week? What's the best thing that's happened? Anything major going on?
- Who is someone you have tried to copy in some way (how you dress, throw a football, tell jokes)?**



## BELIEVE

## EXPLORE GOD'S WORD

3–5 minutes

Today we begin a short series on the power of our testimony. EVERYONE who has had an encounter with Jesus has a testimony. A testimony is simply a story of what Jesus has done in your life. A testimony has 3 parts: (1) Who I was before Christ (2) How I encountered Jesus and why I chose to follow him (3) What Jesus is doing in my life now.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

7–10 minutes

- Why do you think Jesus chose to reveal himself as the messiah first to a woman from Samaria?  
*Because he wanted to show that his GOSPEL extends to everyone*
- Why do you think Jesus told the woman to go get her husband after she said she wanted the living water he was offering?  
*We must confront our sins in the presence of Jesus so that we might receive grace. 1 John says that anyone who says they have no sin is a liar and the truth isn't in them. BUT, anyone who confesses their sins- he is faithful and just to forgive.*
- Why was the woman amazed at Jesus?  
*Because he knew her even though they just met. She realized Jesus was MORE than a teacher... "could this be the messiah?"*
- What was the woman's testimony to the town? What was the result of her leaving her jar and going to tell the town about Jesus/



### CONNECTION

5-7 minutes

If you were to tell people your testimony what would you say? What is your story of Jesus in your life?

*A testimony has 3 parts: (1) Who I was before Jesus (2) How I encountered Jesus and started following him (3) What Jesus is doing in my life now*

### MARK OF A DISCIPLE

2-3 minutes

Disciples of Christ try to make disciples of Christ.

### APPLY IT

5-10 minutes

*Take time to write out the 3 parts of your testimony*



### CLOSING

#### PRAYER

2–3 minutes

Take a moment to ask for prayer requests. Spend some time praying that the students take their role as disciples of Jesus seriously, generously serve those in need, and make more disciples who follow Christ. *Write down any prayer requests mentioned and ask your students about them at your next meeting.*

#### MEMORY VERSE

*Send the memory verse graphic included in your download to your students later this week to keep the conversation going.*

“What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.”

Philippians 4:9 (ESV)

#### NOTES

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