



DAUGHTERS'

OF THE

KING

DAUGHTERS' OF THE KING

Tuesday 9:15-11:30

Fall Schedule 2022

Room A112

Sept. 13	Lesson 1	Caught in Adultery...
Sept. 20	Lesson 2	Words in the Dust
Sept. 27	Lesson 3	A Prostitute Who Loved Much...
Oct. 4	Lesson 4	A Child Well Loved
Oct. 11	Lesson 5	Photine.. Desperate Woman of Samaria
Oct. 18	Lesson 6	Crossing Boundaries
*** Share Day Luncheon ***		
Oct. 25	Lesson 7	The Untouchable..Miraculous Veronica
Nov. 1	Lesson 8	"You Will See My Glory"
Nov. 8	Lesson 9	Beloved Friend...
Nov. 15	Lesson 10	At His Feet

*** Share Day Luncheon ***

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DAUGHTERS' OF THE KING WORD STUDY

Lesson 1:

adultery, authenticity, entrapment, judgmental, Pharisee, self-righteous, standards

Lesson 2:

awakening, condemn, confronts, hypocrisy, mockery, underestimated, unindictable

Lesson 3:

dregs, interpretation, monitors, taboos, violated, zealous

Lesson 4:

audaciously, engaging, erotic, overwhelming, ritually impure

Lesson 5:

abandoned, despised, detractors, disgrace, profound, restorer

Lesson 6:

barren, bereavement, confirming, evangelist, transforming, withered

Lesson 7:

ceremonially unclean, desperate, embraces, incurable, intimacy, ostracized, transferred

Lesson 8:

defile, internal knowing, revealed, self-deception, severe, undetected

Lesson 9:

confounds, disciple, disillusionment, instinctively, lavishness, revelation

Lesson 10:

testimony

Bible Study Applications

A Is there an **A**ttitude to adjust?

P Is there a **P**romise to claim?

P Is there a **P**riority to change?

L Is there a **L**esson to learn?

I Is there an **I**ssue to resolve?

C Is there a **C**ommand to obey?

A Is there an **A**ctivity to avoid?

T Is there a **T**ruth to believe?

I Is there an **I**dol to tear down?

O Is there an **O**ffense to forgive?

N Is there a **N**ew direction to take?

S Is there a **S**in to confess?

- 1) These women's stories are found in the _____.
- 2) What do you think these women want for their lives?
- 3) Do you expect Christ to change their lives in an extraordinary way? _____.

Please open your Bible to John 7:53-8:6. Let's read the story from Scripture.

The Law of Moses is very specific as to what is to happen if a man sleeps with another man's wife. Deuteronomy 22:22 *"If a man is found sleeping with another man's wife both the man who slept with her and the woman must die."*

Since witnesses were necessary, the sinning parties had to be caught in the act. Deuteronomy 19:15 *"One witness is not enough to convict a man accused of any crime or offense he may have committed. A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses"*

Was this woman set up? _____ What makes you think so?

Read John 8:6 again. Were the Pharisees seeking Jesus' guidance? Or entrapment ?

Were the Pharisees seeking justice for the adulterous woman?

Or was she being used for their own purpose? Explain.

Could they just as easily have used a man? Why do you think they did not do so?

What does that tell you about the standards of the overall culture of that day?

Please listen as the adulterous woman tells her own story.

We have all been caught in our sins. Jesus called a lustful look adultery. (Matt 5:28)

James said if you have broken one commandment you have broken them all.

(James 2:10) Therefore, both men and women are on the same moral level. We are all _____. And we are all guilty of sin.

Many self-righteous Christians clearly see the evil in others while being blind to the evil living in their own hearts. Philip Yancey said "Some Christians get very angry at those who sin differently than they do".

Memory Verse: James 2:13 “because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment”

IS THERE AN ATTITUDE TO CHANGE? Righteousness and justice are grounded in grace. Whenever grace is removed, we are left with heartless hypocrisy. Beware of judgmental attitudes living in a self-righteous heart!

What did God show us today?

- 1) We have all been caught in our sins. We are all sinners, both men and women.
- 2) We need to humbly get rid of all self-righteousness in our hearts. We are all capable of sin.

How will you guard against getting angry at those who sin differently than you?

Word Study:

- 1) adultery: voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and someone that is not his/her lawful spouse. She was caught in the act of adultery.
- 2) authenticity: to be genuine-not false or copied—to be real. The authentic desire of her heart was to protect her child and be loved and cared for.
- 3) entrapment: to catch in or as in a trap, to ensnare—to bring someone unaware into difficulty or danger. She was used to entrap Jesus for the Pharisees.
- 4) judgmental: to make moral judgment against someone—an attitude in which judgment about other people’s behavior is made. The judgmental attitude could be seen on their faces.
- 5) Pharisee: A member of a Jewish sect known for its strict observance of religious ceremonies and practices, oral laws and traditions and beliefs.
- 6) self-righteous: to be confident of one’s own righteousness—being intolerant of the opinions and behavior of others. Her self-righteous attitude put others off.

Let's begin by telling the major parts of our story from last week. What happened?

Turn to our Scripture John 7:53-8:6. What are the scribes and Pharisees doing?

Why do you think they are doing that?

No living human being ever knew what Jesus wrote in the dirt. But, let's take a guess at what we think He might be writing.

The disciples are watching. What do you think might be going through their heads?

Let's finish reading John 8: 6-11. Do you think everyone was shocked? Jesus took all embarrassment away from the woman and placed her shame on the shoulders of the scribes and Pharisees.

Let's hear in the woman's words the rest of her story.

Sin is a bad thing. Whether it is adultery, or slander, or abusive words in a fit of rage, or jealousy, or gossip, or lying (pick your sin!) God doesn't ignore it because sin harms the people He created! If you or I try to correct someone who hurts others we must do so without even a hint of self-righteousness in our hearts, knowing full well that we are equally fallen and capable of much worse. (Galatians 6:1-5) Why do you think the older people left the circle of stone-throwers first? What does this tell you about the influence of age on one's understanding of sin?

If a person lovingly confronts another human being using a Christ like attitude, they will experience more hurt by bringing the correction than the one corrected. Because they are humble, they realize just how difficult it is to live a holy life.

Holiness is built on the experience of grace, and not on the fear of the Law. Christ is in the business of rescuing and releasing us, and calling our sin for what it is...self-centeredness. Let's read Psalm 85:10.

Do not forget: If you have received Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, you are set blessedly free from condemnation. Why? Because you are in Christ and He is unindictable. Romans 8:1, Romans 8:33-34, Colossians 1:22

Memory Verse: Galatians 6:1 “Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted.”

IS THERE A PROMISE TO CLAIM? Holiness is built on the experience of grace, and not on the fear of the Law.

What did God show us today?

1) The religious leaders underestimated the wisdom of Christ blended with His grace and mercy. Let's not make the same mistake.

2) When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior we have a new identity as a beautiful loved child of God.

What new future for you has Christ written in the dust and dirt of this life?

Word Study:

1) awakening: a revival of interest or attention—become aware of something. There was an awakening of the senses as they watched the stormy sea.

2) condemn, condemnation: to pronounce guilty—give strong disapproval. The condemnation of Christ was without a just cause by the Pharisees.

3) confronts: to oppose—to face in hostility or defiance. He confronts the enemy head on in a battle of well chosen words.

4) hypocrisy: to pretend to have good moral character, religious beliefs or principles that one does not possess. Jesus exposed the hypocrisy of religious leaders as He taught in the temple.

5) mockery: ridicule, to imitate someone's actions or words in an offensive manner. The crowd made fun of and mocked Jesus as He carried the cross.

6) underestimated: made a mistake in judgment—undervalued. They underestimated the wisdom and mercy of Jesus.

Who were the Pharisee's or scribe's in the time of Jesus and what were the qualities of their personal character:

- 1) Simon, the Pharisee in this story, grew up in a strong religious home.
- 2) He was a serious child that devoted himself to God and the Torah (Law of Moses) He becomes a Pharisee, the most influential sect in Judaism—carefully following the food and purity laws of the Torah.
- 3) As a Pharisee, he was deeply devoted to knowing, interpreting, and applying the Law of Moses to the life of Israel. He was zealous about purifying the nation.
- 4) Simon, like other Pharisee's, saw himself as an expert at *sin management*.
- 5) He, like other Pharisee's become self-appointed, self-anointed, self-righteous monitors of God's kingdom.
- 6) They are committed to what God revealed in the Torah, but their interpretation of it had changed greatly. No other interpretation but their own was acceptable, giving way to a rise of jealousy of anyone who challenged them, including Jesus.
- 7) Most importantly they *distance themselves from anyone who practices sin*.
- 8) **They belong to a special class of people, Non-sinners. So they think.**

How does God see a group of people who consider themselves as non-sinners?

Let's read: 1 John 1:8, 1 Timothy 1:15, Luke 18:13

The young woman in our story grew up as a precious, innocent and beautiful child.

- 1) Things go horribly wrong in her young life as a teen.
- 2) She ends up giving her body in exchange for money; becoming a prostitute.
- 3) Good Jews despise her. She is defiled and unclean. A dregs of society.

Please listen as our sister tells her story.

Let's turn in the Bible to Luke 7.

All throughout the Gospels, Jesus Christ is shown to be the friend and defender of sinners (Luke 7:34) he welcomed tax collectors, thieves, the prostitute and the adulterers into His kingdom.

Therefore, He violated social taboos to reach out to those whom the culture rejected; some culturally (Luke 7:1-10) such as the Centurion's servant, some economically/financially (Luke 7:11-17) such as raising the son of a widow from death, and others religiously (Luke 7:24-34) such as John the Baptist, and indeed those morally unacceptable (Luke 7:36-50) our own prostitute who loved much.

True faith is demonstrated when we allow ourselves to receive God's generous forgiveness in Christ. And the proof of that faith is love. What is more, faith brings forth peace.

Humility and treating others the way you want to be treated in all circumstances is what Jesus is after. Matthew 7:12. This in fact fulfills the entire law and the prophets. (Which is the entire Old Testament)

It doesn't matter what you've done or how bad you've failed, Jesus Christ is bigger than all your mess-ups, and His mercy and grace are much, much, bigger than any sin you've ever committed.

Ultimately, your God is after love. Beyond everything else, even service, He wished to be loved (Matthew 22:37-38). **You are His beloved.**

Memory Verse: Hebrew 2:11 "both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers."

IS THERE A PRIORITY TO CHANGE? Ultimately, God is after love beyond everything else, even service. He wishes to be loved and you are His beloved.

What did God show us today?

- 1) Humility and treating others the way you want to be treated in all circumstances is what shows Christ's love flowing through you.
- 2) It doesn't matter what you've done or how bad you've failed, Jesus Christ's mercy and grace are larger than any sin you've ever committed.
- 3) If you consider yourself as a non-sinner, judging those who are not like you, then you are dangerously out of favor with God.

Tell in what way you have been a Pharisee to someone else, or a Christian has acted like a Pharisee to you.

Word Study:

- 1) dregs: least valuable part of anything; society, grounds, etc. The woman was considered the dregs of her society and was therefore treated badly.
- 2) interpretation: an explanation or bringing meaning to something. The Pharisees had their own interpretation of the Laws of Moses and the Torah.
- 3) monitors: a person who supervises, gives warnings about the behavior of others. The Pharisees were the monitors of the behavior of the Jewish nation.
- 4) taboos: prohibited, forbidden, banned, improper or unacceptable. The social taboos in the first century were often related to the monitoring of the Pharisees.
- 5) violated: to break through or pass by force, infringe upon. Jesus violated many social taboos during His time of ministry on earth.
- 6) zealous: enthusiastic, intense, passionate. He was a zealous enforcer of law.

Let's refresh last week's story of the prostitute:

- 1) We know she loved her family. She didn't want to bring _____ to them.
- 2) After the horrible event at age 15 she chose to use faith or _____ to decide how she would live the rest of her life. She determined she could never be _____, never clean, never _____. So she might as well be able to _____.
- 3) How does meeting Elkanah change her life? _____.
- 4) When she compares herself to other known sinners what does she decide? She says she needs to know that what Jesus says is _____. Why?
- 5) What is Elkanah's wish for the prostitute? _____.
- 6) Why does she feel she can never be clean? _____.
- 7) Her confession includes every _____ of her sins. After that she experiences the overwhelming feeling of God's _____, forgiveness.

This woman learned something powerful and simple. There is a love that transcends worthlessness and the sinful deeds done in darkness. She was forever changed in the light of that love.

Let's finish the rest of the woman's story.

In the second part of her story we learn about what happens when **self-righteousness meets pure righteousness**. Who would that be? _____ and _____. The young prophet reclining in Simon's home was the very God whom Simon and his friends had been trying to serve all their lives. Think about that! Now enter a dirty prostitute, ritually impure into the home of a so-called clean, pure Pharisee.

Although she came to express an act of gratitude, how grateful she was for God's forgiveness, grace and love, the Pharisees' saw it through the lens of erotic, sinful and shameful behavior of a sinner. What Jesus saw was a self-righteous Pharisee engaging in an outrageous act of judgment against Him! as well as the woman. Do these viewpoints still exist today? Even among Christians? **Read Matthew 23.**

- 1) Simon was a wealthy man because he could host a large banquet in his home.
- 2) The young prophet who reclined in Simon's home was the very God whom Simon and his friends had been trying to serve all their lives. Think about that!
- 3) In the first-century, people's homes weren't private as they now are in modern West. People could walk into a person's home even if they were not invited. So it wasn't unusual for the woman to enter his home but for her social stature in society. So we have a dirty prostitute, ritually impure, a whore in social status entering the home of a so-called clean, pure Pharisee. A defiling intruder.
- 4) Her intention was to find Christ and anoint Him as an act of gratitude. She becomes overwhelmed when she sees Him personally in Simon's house. When she unbinds her hair it is similar to a woman going topless in public today. Men would consider it to be erotic.
- 5) Attending to someone's feet was a menial task usually given to a slave. The Pharisee's would have considered it to be as someone providing sexual favors. Her actions at the table were shamelessly erotic, socially awkward, very inappropriate.
- 6) In Simon's mind, the godly do not associate with the wicked. So, thinking to himself, *if this man were a prophet, He would know that she's a sinner, and He wouldn't allow this shameful behavior and disgraceful act.*
- 7) Jesus allowed a sinful woman to perform an outrageous act of affection in a very public manner. He also observed a self-righteous Pharisee engaging in an outrageous act of judgment against Him. But Jesus exposes Simon's serious breach of the laws of hospitality, then drops a bomb. What is it? Luke 7:36-50 Simon doesn't approve of this woman but Jesus doesn't approve of Simon! He implies that Simon not only loves God little but he barely knows Him at all!!

The lens of self-righteousness saw the woman's acts as erotic, shameful, and sinful. The lens of true righteousness saw it as beautiful, sacred, and gracious. These two lens still exist today...even among Christians.

Christ leveled His severest criticism to the religious, self-righteous, morally upright. Read Matthew 23. These self-righteous folks disqualified themselves from the kingdom of God the kingdom they thought they were building through pristine behavior. Jesus does not imply that the woman's actions earned forgiveness, they resulted from her forgiveness, her love became proof that she had already been for

Memory Verse: Luke 7:47 “Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. “

IS THERE A LESSON TO LEARN: You will never know if self-righteousness lurks in your heart until you see someone you regard as “sinful” audaciously loving Jesus. How you react to that situation will uncover what’s deep within your heart.

What did God show us today?

- 1) Self-righteousness will disqualify you from blessings of the kingdom of God.
- 2) Serving God, as Simon performed his entire life, doesn’t score points with God.
- 3) When you feel condemnation over your past sins, mistakes, and failures, remember a sinful woman loved the Lord of glory in the house of a Pharisee and He was not ashamed of her nor is He ashamed of you. You are His beloved child.

How will you find self-righteousness deep within your heart? Will you change it?

Word Study:

- 1) audaciously: bold or daring, without restriction, fearless. The sinner’s love for Jesus was audaciously expressed to the surprise and horror of those watching.
- 2) engaging: becoming involved, to enter into something. The Pharisee was engaging in an outrageous act of judging Christ as well as the woman.
- 3) erotic: arousing or satisfying sexual desire. The woman ‘s actions appeared to the Pharisee’s to be erotic, shameful and sinful.
- 4) overwhelming: overpowering, excessive, overcome completely in mind and/or feeling. It was overwhelming to see Jesus in person as she was filled with gratitude for His forgiveness and love.
- 5) ritually impure: cannot participate in holy activities according to Jewish law. The woman was ritually impure because of her sinful way of life.

Some of the most **profound** things that ever came from the lips of the Son of God were spoken to a woman who was a walking **scandal** and embarrassment. In fact, the longest personal conversation Jesus ever had (recorded in the Gospels) was with this same woman. Amazing. Let's set her in the first century culture with an understanding of the Old Testament life commonly led by these women.

- 1) Jewish people _____ Samaritans. Why? _____.
- 2) Jews were not to _____ or share a common _____. They were _____.
- 3) Jewish men were not to _____ to women alone in public locations.

Samaritans saw things differently than the Jews:

- 1) Samaritans believed no real prophets lived after the death of _____.
- 2) They were looking for a Prophet _____ Moses. He was called the _____.
- 3) Samaritans refused to _____ in Jerusalem, instead they worshiped on Mt. Gerizim where their own temple was built. The Jews _____ it in 128 BC.
- 4) They only accepted the first five books of the Old Testament. Written by _____
- 5) The Samaritan's believed the Jews had **abandoned** their _____.

The Jews and Samaritans had one thing in common. They did not value the testimony of a woman.

Let's read the Diary of a desperate Samaritan woman. Her story in the Bible can be found in John 4:1-42.

Photine carried the shame of her past and the guilt of her present situation. Though she loved others she seldom received love herself. Where did this **despised**, lonely Samaritan meet a despised, lonely Jew? Have you ever had a divine encounter?

Photine's loneliness was betrayal and sin, but His loneliness came because of human jealousy. (John 12:19) His **detractors** were envious of Him so they influenced others to reject Him. Does Christ have envious detractors today?

Jesus talked of a new and different way to worship. What was it?

- 1) God sought *any person* to worship Him.
- 2) They were to worship in spirit (not in pretense) and truth (according to who He really is)
- 3) anywhere they were
- 4) no matter their *past history* or *present circumstance*.

Why did Photine want the living water? _____

She was confusing a physical need for water with a _____ need.

She believed Jesus' message because it would make her life _____.

If that were the case she would accept Christ for the wrong reason. Christ did not come to take challenges away from our life but to change us on the inside and empower us to deal with problems from God's perspective. John 4:15

Photine didn't understand at first, it takes time to understand and accept something that is very foundational to your life. Jesus allowed her to ask _____ and begin to piece together things for herself. John 4:15

Sharing the gospel with someone doesn't always have immediate results when you ask someone to let Jesus change their life. Give them time to do what Photine did.

Photine tried to change the topic. People often do this when the conversation gets too close to home, and they try to talk about something else. As we witness, we should gently guide the conversation back to Christ. Why? His presence exposes sin and can make people uncomfortable, ***but only Christ can forgive sins and give new life.*** John 4:16-20

"God is spirit" means he is not a physical being limited to one place. He is present everywhere and can be worshiped anywhere, any time. It is not where we worship that counts, but how we worship. The location of worship is not nearly as important as the *attitude of the worshipers*. John 4:21-24

Is your worship genuine and true? Do you have the Holy Spirit's help? How does the Holy Spirit help us worship?

The Holy Spirit prays for us Romans 8:26. Tells us we are loved Romans 5:5 Teaches us the words of Christ John 14:26

When Jesus said "Salvation is from the Jews" He meant God had promised that through the Jewish race the whole earth would be blessed (Genesis 12:3) The Jews were to be a light to the other nations of the world, bringing them to a knowledge of God. John 4: 22

Memory Verse: Ephesians 2:19-20 “Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.”

IS THERE AN ISSUE TO RESOLVE? Even though Jesus knows our shameful past and sinful present, He offers us living water. No matter culture, language, sex.

What did God show us today?

- 1) God searches out those who are living in sin. Invites them to receive salvation.
- 2) God loves and wants all people to have salvation in Jesus Christ.
- 3) We are to worship in spirit and truth. Honoring God without pretense, for who He is.

Will you who do not know Christ as Lord and Savior, follow Him today? If the Holy Spirit lives in your heart will you praise and thank God, without pretense?

Word Study:

- 1) abandoned: forsaken, deserted, give up all concern in something, left behind as though unimportant. The Samaritans thought the Jews had abandoned their faith.
- 2) despised: to treat with disgust, scorn, distaste. The Jewish leadership despised Jesus because of their jealousy at the people’s admiration and love for Him.
- 3) detractors: to take away a part of the value, quality or reputation . The religious leaders were detractors to Jesus Word and ministry on earth.
- 4) profound: deep understanding-deep meaning. The teachings of Jesus were profound and often came in ways not expected, such as through a desperate woman
- 5) restorer: to bring back to a former or original state--to give back anything taken away or lost. The Samaritans were looking for a “Restorer” as Messiah.
- 6) scandal: public disgrace—damage to someone’s reputation. Photine was known as a scandal and disgrace among the residence of the city.

Chapter 5: Who Are You, Really?

by Frank Viola

In Revise Us Again, I argued at length that the Christian life is becoming who you already are.

In Ephesians, Paul says two times to “speak the truth in love” to one another. In context, Paul is exhorting God’s people to remind one another of who they are in Christ . . . to remind one another about the new self into which they have been made . . . to remind one another of their true identity. Something that’s all too easy to forget.

If you have received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, here’s a list of who you really are. Marvel at the epic greatness of your Lord and what He has done for you.

Receive it, remember it, and walk in it . . .

You are complete in Christ who is the Head of all principality and power (Colossians 2:10).

You have been crucified with Christ (Galatians 2:20).

You are dead to sin (Romans 6:2).

You have been made alive with Christ (Ephesians 2:5).

You are free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8:2).

You are born of God, and the evil one does not touch you (1 John 5:18).

You are holy and without blame before Him in love (Ephesians 1:4; 1 Peter 1:16).

You have been given the peace of God that passes all understanding (Philippians 4:7).

You have the Greater One living in you and greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world (1 John 4:4).

You have received the gift of righteousness and reign in life by Jesus Christ (Romans 5:17).

You have received the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Jesus (Ephesians 1:17-18).

You can do all things through Christ Jesus who strengthens you (Philippians 4:13).

You are light in the Lord (Ephesians 5:8).

You have been given all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ (Ephesians 1:3).

You have been chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4).

You have been justified (just as if you had never sinned) (Romans 5:1).

You are a branch on the true Vine (John 15:1, 5).

You are born of God (1 John 5:18).

You have direct access to the throne of grace through Jesus Christ (Hebrews 4:14-16).

You are free from condemnation and you cannot be charged or indicted (Romans 8:1, 32-34).

You have been established, anointed and sealed by God (2 Corinthians 1:21-22).

You are hidden with Christ in God (Colossians 3:1-4).

You are a citizen of heaven (Philippians 3:20).

You are at peace with God (Romans 5:1).

You have everlasting life (John 5:24).

You are kept by God's power (1 Peter 1:5).

You are in Christ Jesus by God's act (1 Corinthians 1:30).

You cannot be separated from God's love in Christ (Romans 8:35-39).

You are fit to partake of His inheritance (Colossians 1:12; Ephesians 1:14).

You are part of Christ's bride that He cherishes, bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh (Ephesians 5:29-32).

You are a king and priest unto God (Revelation 1:6).

You have been sealed with the promised Holy Spirit until the day of redemption (Ephesians 1:13; 4:30).

God will complete the good work that He started in you (Philippians 1:6).

God is for you even when others are against you (Romans 8:31).

You show forth the praises of God who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9).

You are God's child, born again of the incorruptible seed of the Word of God (1 Peter 1:23; John 1:12).

You are God's masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus unto good works (Ephesians 2:10).

You are a new creature in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17).

You are alive to God (Romans 6:11).

You are an heir of God and a joint-heir with Christ (Romans 8:17).

You are more than a conqueror through Him who loves you (Romans 8:37).

You have been brought near to God by the blood of Christ (Ephesians 2:13).

You are beloved of God (1 John 4:10).

You are loved by the Father the same way Jesus is loved by the Father (John 17:23).

You have been redeemed from the curse of the Law (Galatians 3:13).

You have been justified from all things (Acts 13:39).

You are now God's offspring (1 John 3:2).

You are the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13).

You have been reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:18).

You have been accepted by God in the Beloved Son (Ephesians 1:6).

You are kept by the power of God (1 Corinthians 1:8).

You are free in Christ (John 8:36; Galatians 5:1).

You are in Christ's hands out of which no one can pluck you out (John 10:28).

You are in the Father's hands out of which no one can pluck you out (John 10:29).

You are an overcomer by the blood of the Lamb and the word of your testimony (Revelation 12:11).

You are a partaker of His divine nature (2 Peter 1:3-4).

You are part of a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a purchased people (1 Peter 2:9).

You are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus (2 Corinthians 5:21).

You are the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19).

You are the light of the world (Matthew 5:14).

You are God's elect, full of mercy, kindness, humility, and longsuffering (Romans 8:33; Colossians 3:12).

You are forgiven of all sins and washed in the blood (Ephesians 1:7).

You have been delivered from the power of darkness and translated into God's kingdom (Colossians 1:13).

You have put off the old man and have put on the new man (Colossians 3:9-10).

You are healed by the stripes of Jesus (1 Peter 2:24).

You are raised up with Christ and seated in heavenly places (Ephesians 2:6; Colossians 2:12).

You have overcome the world (1 John 5:4).

You are greatly loved by God (Romans 1:7; Ephesians 2:4; Colossians 3:12; 1 Thessalonians 1:4).

You are strengthened with all might according to His glorious power (Colossians 1:11).

You have not been given a spirit of fear, but of love, power, and a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7).

You have Christ living inside of you (Galatians 2:20).

You are a holy one (Colossians 1:2).

You are one spirit with the Lord (1 Corinthians 6:17).

You are holy, unreprouvable, and unblameable in His sight (Colossians 1:22).

You are a member of Christ's holy body (1 Corinthians 12:27).

You have been given all things that pertain to life and godliness (1 Peter 1:3).

Today we're going to begin by reading the desperate Samaritan woman's story from the Scripture. John 4:1-42

On this day, salvation ventured outside of Judaism into the Gentile world. We see Jesus at His best; touching and transforming the unclean, crossing boundaries of culture, social status and gender. **The Jesus of the Gospels is more concerned with people than the traditions that separate them.** And His scandalous behavior pointed to the new reality of the unity of the Spirit (Father/Son) and the global nature of God's salvation. *He was not the leader of the old Israel, but the Restorer, "the Savior of the entire world".*

Jesus told Photine that drinking from Jacob's well would sooner or later leave her thirsty again (John 4:13) It is also true of the wells of this world; Fame can satisfy for a time. Fortune can satisfy for a time. Even the pleasures of sin are satisfying .. for a season. Heb. 11:25 " He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time." Eventually, you will thirst again, Moses knew that so he chose to leave behind the riches of Pharaoh's Palace as he looked ahead to his heavenly reward.

How did the disciples react when they returned with food and saw Jesus at the well talking to the Samaritan woman?

How did Photine react to her life changing meeting with Jesus at the well?

After confirming her witness concerning Jesus what did the elders do next?

How did Jesus respond to the invitation of the Samaritan elders?

What was the result of that response?

On this special day, an unclean, despised and desperate Samaritan woman became *the first evangelist to Samaritans. And the Samaritan community met their Messiah, the lover of their souls!*

But this isn't the end of the story concerning Samaria. Others came and told the Good News. Let's read Acts 8:4-17. When Peter and John visit Samaria perhaps this is when Photine shares her full story with John of how she met Jesus and the conversation they had. And John writes the account in the Gospel that bears his name.

Memory Verse: John 7:38 "Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him."

IS THERE A COMMAND TO OBEY? To have a relationship with God you must believe in Jesus Christ, His death, burial and resurrection. "For no one comes to the Father except through me."

What did God show us today?

- 1) Jesus' priority was doing the will of the Father. He crossed cultural and religious boundaries no matter the cost, despite judgment or scandal. We should also.
- 2) He is the Savior of the entire world, not just old Israel.
- 3) Despite our greatest and most severe sins, the Lord of glory cherishes us!

Describe how you know "the Lord of glory cherishes" you.

Word Study:

- 1) barren: not producing offspring; sterile, unproductive, fruitless. Photine was a barren woman in a very judgmental time and place.
- 2) bereavement: a time of mourning after a loss; intense grief. Her time of bereavement was difficult and intense following her husband's death.
- 3) confirming: to establish the truth or accuracy, validity or genuineness of something. After confirming who Jesus was, they invited Him to stay a while.
- 4) evangelist: a person who first brought the gospel to a city or region. Photine became the first evangelist to the Samaritan people, after meeting Christ.
- 5) transforming: to change in character or condition; to convert. Meeting Christ was a life-transforming event for the despised Samaritan woman at the well.
- 6) withered: lose freshness, to affect in a harmful way. Just as the grapes withered on the vine from too much water, our lives wither without the "Living Water".

Background:

- 1) Time is first century in _____. Jesus is about _____.
- 2) Man named _____ lives in Capernaum. He has a baby _____.
- 3) Jairus will become the synagogue president of his city. Very important _____.
- 4) In another city a young girl age 12 is stricken with a serious bleeding problem.

Move forward 12 years: _____ is 31 and His ministry is in full swing. He is teach____, heal____ the sick and preaching the g_____ n_____ of the kingdom. Jairus's daughter is _____ and deathly ill.

The young woman, Veronica the early church called her, her bleeding is worse. Jairus and Veronica will meet Jesus of Nazareth. Their lives will change forever.

Mark 5:26 " she _____ a great deal under the care of many _____." Luke says her disease is **incurable**.

- 1) She was considered by all to be **ceremonially unclean**.
- 2) No doubt not able to conceive.
- 3) If she married it would have lead to divorce.
- 4) If her husband was a righteous man he could not touch her and be ritually clean.
- 5) Her uncleanness was transferred to others if she touched them or sat close.
- 6) She was also impure for a week following a bleeding event. She made offerings through a priest to cleanse herself. (Leviticus 15:25-28)
- 7) Veronica's bleeding meant she was **ostracized** for 12 years as she was unclean.
- 8) During this 12 years of her young teen and young adult life;

not able to touch another human being, no friendships

no **embraces**, no affection, no **intimacy**, no conversation

cannot attend any worship service, or have other privileges

lived in poverty from spending her resources on doctors

She was anemic, infertile, childless and probably divorced, always unclean.

She was desperate to find Jesus! Listen as I read Veronica's diary to her granddaughter Talitha. Scripture reference: Mark 5:25-35, Luke 8:42-49

Memory Verse: Matthew 15:28 “ Then Jesus answered, ‘Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.’ And her daughter was healed from that very hour.”

IS THERE AN ACTIVITY TO AVOID? Yes, giving up. Your desperation is designed to lead you to the kingdom of God and all that’s in it.

What did God show us today?

- 1) Sincere and deep faith in Christ is more important than anything else.
- 2) No matter how great your resources are; status, wealth, knowledge, etc. none are more important than the depth of your faith.
- 3) No matter how serious or long standing the problem; great faith is the answer.

He healed them, I’m determined to get near Him so He can heal me too! How will you do that? _____

Word Study:

- 1) ceremonially unclean: Israel was a holy nation and sanctified people. They had responsibilities to perform as a testimony of their obedient service to God. God declared certain things clean and others unclean which helped to define holiness to them. Unclean things could not be touched until certain rituals were performed.
- 2) desperate: reckless or dangerous because of hopelessness or urgency. Excessive. Veronica’s actions were extreme due to her desperate situation for many years.
- 3) embraces: to take or grasp in the arms. Hug. Embraces were not a part of her life
- 4) incurable: cannot be cured or corrected. Unable to change the condition. Her bleeding continually was considered incurable in this day and time.
- 5) intimacy: a close, familiar and usually affectionate or loving personal relationship with another person. Also, sexual intercourse. There was no intimacy in her life due to her continuously unclean condition.
- 6) ostracized: to banish, exclude from society, friendship, conversation, privileges.

Last week we learned of Veronica’s desperate physical, emotional and spiritual situation that had gone on for many years. What are some of the issues she had been facing since she was a young girl?

Sometimes God’s children become so desperate for Him that they will “force their way into” His kingdom where there is “righteousness, peace and joy” (Romans 14:17, Luke 16:16) *It isn’t just about salvation. It’s about receiving the benefits of the kingdom, like deliverance, peace, and joy.* When she heard about Jesus, she decided to forcefully “press into” the kingdom and “take it”, the blessings, joy and peace, by force. ***She was desperate for what others had received from Jesus!***

Let’s listen to the rest of her story as she writes in her diary to her granddaughter.

What do you think she thought when she heard how Jesus healed others?

Let’s read Matthew 15:21-28 . The Canaanite woman who persisted to have the Lord heal her daughter—even though He ignored, rebuffed and even insulted her! This MaMa was not giving up! Her child’s life was at stake.

What about Jacob’s wrestling with the angel and wouldn’t let Him go until he received the _____! On that night, Jacob pressed into what God wanted for him, exercising a forceful, violent faith! ***Sometimes the Lord wants us to press into His kingdom and receive what is rightfully ours in Christ!***

When we have a crisis in our life, particularly one of long standing we listen to the voice of doubt that always caves in to unbelief. Therefore making us become double-minded, deceiving ourselves. Let’s read James 1:4-8

Perhaps the Lord has allowed you to be put into a desperate, hopeless situation; physical, emotional or financial that you have endured for years. Perhaps something else tragic or traumatic. You’ve tried to get relief every way possible. Even praying over and over. No relief comes. So you’ve given up. **But the Lord wants you to rise up...today..and force your way into His deliverance.** *Don’t let Him go until He’s blessed you or until He says, “Leave it in my hands. My grace is sufficient for you”. (2Corinthians 12:7-10)* Stretch your hand to Jesus!

Memory Verse: Mark 5:34 He said to her, " Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

IS THERE A TRUTH TO BELIEVE? The Lord wants us to rise up..today..and force our way into His deliverance, finding divine peace, joy and righteousness.

What did God show us today:

- 1)"faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ" Romans 10:17
- 2) Faith is a specific kind of trust in God that is built on an internal knowing.
- 3) Remember Veronica's faith, risk, and determination, and go and do likewise.

What do the stories of Jacob, Canaanite woman and Veronica teach us about faith?

Word Study:

- 1)defile: to make dirty, make impure for ceremonial use. Veronica would defile anyone she touched due to her unclean state of continuous bleeding.
- 2) internal knowing: not self knowledge but faith that is the channel by which Jesus' power can operate. Her internal knowing of God's desire for her peace, joy and righteousness gave her the greatest determination to touch Him.
- 3) revealed: to make known, to display, make open to view or see. Jesus wanted the person who touched Him to be revealed.
- 4) self-deception: to deceive ones self, trick or deny ones true nature or motives. Doubt gives in to unbelief and distrust causing us to be double-minded and deceiving ourselves.
- 5) severe: harsh, critical, causing discomfort or distress under extreme conditions. The severe conditions caused great distress in her circumstances.
- 6) undetected: not able to discover or catch a person in the act of doing something. She thought she would be undetected by touching the garment instead of Jesus.

Mary of Bethany had a sister named _____ and a brother named _____.
Their aging father, Simon, was joyous because Jesus had healed his _____.
In return Lazarus invited Jesus and the disciples to come for _____.

Let's read about the event in Luke 10:38-42.

Sitting in the "public room" (for men only) at the feet of Jesus (where only men sat) was strictly _____ for women. Mary sat there humbly determined to learn from Jesus no matter the cost.

She was criticized by her sister Martha, but only Jesus responded. "Only one thing is _____ and I won't take it away from her." As a disciple Mary :

- Opened her _____ to Jesus. Listening and learning from Him.
- She was teachable, acknowledging He knows best how we should live life.
- Forsaking even important tasks, she revered Him and loved Him.
- Out of these values comes mission and service to God.

Let's turn to John 11:1-7, 17-44. The death of Lazarus, Mary and Martha's brother.

- The Lord's tears reveal His sensitivity to human pain and suffering.
- Jesus was not present for the funeral. An embarrassment to those grieving .
- Mary's words "Lord, if You only had been here, my brother would not have died." Tell a circumstance when you felt this way toward God.
- In our suffering we want an _____. *Jesus wants to give us a revelation.. of himself.*

Mary shows us how to believe in the face of doubt, distress, and disillusionment.

Let's read the final account of Mary in the Gospels: Anointing Jesus John 12:1-11

Mary anoints Jesus with a costly _____, instinctively knowing He would soon be dead. Proverbs 27:2. She is bitterly criticized first by Judas and then the disciples for her "_____". Proverbs 17:28 How much is Jesus worth? If you are silent, God sees everything and will defend unseen acts of love.

Not long ago, there's was a lot of buzz going around from one USA political party arguing that the other side was launching a "war on women."

Whether you agree with this analysis or you feel it's a case of political hand-waving, the truth is that historically, women have often gotten the short end of the stick.

This was very much the case during the time of Jesus.

Interestingly, Jesus treated women differently than any other Jewish teacher of His day. Women played a prominent role in His ministry.

The following bulleted list unpacks that statement. It will give you a peak into how Christ viewed women during His earthy life, and how He views them today . . . for He is "the same yesterday, today and forever."

It must first be said that women in Jesus' day were treated pretty poorly both by the Jewish and Roman world.

They could not receive an education. They had no voice in their marriage, and they were limited to a special court in the Temple that was inferior to that of the men.

A Jewish man was not supposed to talk to a woman in public. If he did, it was considered a shame. Jewish women were to be seen in public as little as possible.

The prevailing view of women in the Jewish mind was that they were regarded as private property.

But Jesus of Nazareth turned all of this on its head.

In the following list, I'm deliberately not giving the Scripture references. The reason is because I want to challenge you to re-read the Gospels, and as you read, ask what role women played in the life and ministry of Jesus.

By doing so, you will see each point below emerge in the narrative.

A Survey of Women in the Gospels

Group 1.

Elizabeth and Mary (not Zachariah and Joseph) were the first to receive the news of the coming Messiah. They were also the first to prophesy about the Christ child.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for the transparency and accountability of the organization. This section also outlines the various methods used to collect and analyze data, ensuring that the information is reliable and up-to-date.

2. The second part of the document focuses on the financial aspects of the organization. It provides a detailed overview of the budget, including the projected income and expenses for the upcoming year. This section also discusses the various financial risks and how they are being managed to ensure the organization's financial stability.

3. The third part of the document addresses the human resources of the organization. It discusses the current staffing levels, the skills and qualifications of the employees, and the plans for future recruitment and training. This section also highlights the importance of maintaining a positive work environment and fostering a sense of team spirit among the employees.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the organization's relationship with its stakeholders. It outlines the various ways in which the organization interacts with its customers, suppliers, and the community. This section also discusses the organization's commitment to social responsibility and its efforts to contribute to the development of the community.

5. The fifth part of the document discusses the organization's future plans and goals. It outlines the various strategies and initiatives that the organization is planning to implement in the coming years. This section also discusses the organization's vision for the future and its commitment to achieving its long-term goals.

and later by Judas and the other disciples. In both cases, Jesus rose to Mary's defense.

Group 5

A group of women followed Jesus along with the Twelve. They also took care of His needs out of their substance. This group of female disciples are called "the women" by Luke in the Gospels and in Acts. Jesus was the first Jewish teacher to have women disciples. And for a Jewish woman to leave her home and travel with a Jewish teacher was not only exotically rare, but it was considered scandalous.

- Jesus spent His last week on earth (before His resurrection) in the home of a woman. He stayed with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus in Martha's home in Bethany.
- Jesus' female disciples stayed with Jesus during His death, proving themselves to be more faithful than most of His male disciples. With the exception of John, Jesus' male disciples deserted Him during His darkest hour.
- Jesus' female disciples were the first to show up at His tomb to care for His body.
- The first eyes that witnessed the resurrected Christ were the eyes of a woman (Mary Magdalene). Ironically, during the first century, a woman's testimony was of no use in a court of law. Yet God in His wisdom allowed a woman to be the first witness to the greatest miracle ever accomplished.

In the whole of Jesus' public ministry there was nothing in His words or deeds that indicated any concern to restrict the spiritual service of women.

Key Take-Aways

Jesus came into a world where the cards were stacked against women. The ways in which He engaged, conversed, healed, and recognized them in His teachings were radical for His culture, but they were second nature to Jesus.

Remember, Jesus is the human face of God. So His opinion of women reflects God's opinion of them.

Jesus is the greatest liberator in the universe. And freeing women to their God-given callings is one of the things He does best. Among other things, this would include the following:

- In the spirit of Mary Magdalene — the first woman to set eyes on the resurrected Christ — women are free to testify to the good news of Jesus and His resurrection.
- In the spirit of Mary — the mother of Jesus — women are free to fulfill God's will and calling, saying "be it unto me according to your Word."
- In the spirit of Mary of Bethany, women are free to worship Jesus Christ extravagantly. And they are free to sit at His feet as disciples, along with His male followers.
- In the spirit of Anna, women are free to prophesy by the Holy Spirit. In this way, women are called to serve as spiritual priests along with men because they are part of the priesthood of all believers and they too possess the Spirit.
- In the spirit of the Canaanite woman who persisted in her request for Jesus to heal her daughter, women are free to press into the Kingdom of God and wrestle with God until they receive His blessing.
- In the spirit of the women who traveled with Jesus — Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna, and others — women are free to follow the Lord wherever He goes and serve Him out of their substance.
- In the spirit of the Samaritan woman whom Jesus met at Jacob's well, women are free to pioneer evangelism and church planting initiatives.

Memory Verse: Mark 14:9 "I tell you the truth, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

IS THERE AN OFFENSE TO FORGIVE? Mary shows us how to believe in the face of doubt, distress, and disillusionment. How to cease being offended at a God who confounds us.

What did God show us today:

- 1) Mary modeled the life of a disciple: Open your heart, be teachable, acknowledging He knows best how we should live our life. John 14:10
- 2) Every crisis in our lives is an opportunity to broaden, deepen, and heighten our revelation of Christ. Matthew 11:6
- 3) If you are silent, God sees everything and will defend unseen acts of love. Proverbs 17:28

How does the way Jesus engages, talks to, heals and recognizes women show God's opinion of them?

Word Study:

- 1) confounds: to surprise, confuse, bewilder our expectations. Our God confounds us with some of His ways.
- 2) disciple: someone who is an active pupil, student or follower of another. A disciple of Christ must be teachable and have an open heart.
- 3) disillusionment: to free from or take away an illusion, belief, conviction or ideals. Mary chose to believe in Christ in the disillusionment of Lazarus' death.
- 4) instinctively: resulting from something natural, unlearned, innate or intuitive. Mary instinctively knew Christ would soon die.
- 5) lavishness: using or giving in great amounts, without limits. Her lavishness in spending filled her closet to overflowing with clothes and shoes.
- 6) revelation: to reveal or disclose, make known especially something previously not known. During a crisis in our lives we have an opportunity to have a further revelation of Christ.

- 1) Give one sentence that describes each woman **before** Jesus met them.
 - a) Adulteress:
 - b) Prostitute:
 - c) Samaritan woman who had 5 husbands and was currently living in sin:
 - d) Woman with a flow of blood
 - e) Mary
- 2) Give one sentence that describes each woman **after** Jesus met them.
- 3) What was it about Jesus, in these stories, that touched your heart the most? Tell something about that if you would like.
- 4) Tell something about "The Day I Met Jesus" in your own life.