

The Samaritan Woman at the Well -- John 4:1-42 (NRSV)

A) Transition: Departure from Judea toward Galilee

¹ Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, "Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John" ² --although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized-- ³ he left Judea and started back to Galilee. ⁴ But he had to go through Samaria.

B) Arrival at Jacob's Well near Sychar in Samaria

⁵ So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.

⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was *about noon*.

C) Dialogue of Jesus and the Samaritan Woman about Water & Thirst

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)

⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?"

(Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)

¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and *he would have given you living water.*"

¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"

¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"

¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. *The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.*"

¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

D) Dialogue of Jesus and the Samaritan Woman about Worship & the Messiah

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."

¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband."

Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband';

¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"

¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that **you are a prophet**."

²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."

²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You worship what you do not know; *we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.*

²³ But *the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth,*

for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴ *God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.*"

²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."

²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I am [he], the one who is speaking to you."

A) Transition: Jesus' Disciples Return and Wonder about the Woman

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with *a woman*, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"

B) The Samaritan Woman tells her Villagers about the Messiah

²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,

²⁹ "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! *He cannot be the Messiah, can he?*"

³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

C) The Dialogue of Jesus and His Disciples about Food & Work

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."

³² But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."

³³ So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?"

³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work."

³⁵ Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest?'

But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.

³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.

³⁷ For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor.

Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

D) The Reaction of the Samaritans to the Woman and to Jesus

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done."

⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days.

⁴¹ And *many more believed because of his word.*

⁴² They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

(Note: John 4:43-54 contains two separate stories)

Johannine Gospels for the RCIA Scrutinies during Lent

3rd Sunday of Lent – WATER: The Samaritan Woman at the Well (John 4:1-42)

- A) 1-4: Transition: Departure from Judea toward Galilee
- B) 5-6: Arrival at Jacob's Well near Sychar in Samaria
- C) 7-15: Dialogue of Jesus and the Samaritan Woman about Water & Thirst
- D) 16-26: Dialogue of Jesus and the Samaritan Woman about Worship & the Messiah
- A) 27: Transition: Jesus' Disciples Return and Wonder about the Woman
- B) 28-30: The Samaritan Woman tells her Villagers about the Messiah
- C) 31-38: The Dialogue of Jesus and His Disciples about Food & Work
- D) 39-42: The Reaction of the Samaritans to the Woman and to Jesus

4th Sunday of Lent – LIGHT: The Man Born Blind (John 9:1-41)

- A) 1-5: *Jesus* & his disciples relation of sin & blindness
- B) 6-7: *Jesus* & the blind person bringing the person to physical sight
- C1) 8-12: neighbors & ex-blind person question of person's identity; process of healing
- D1) 13-17: ex-blind person & Pharisees discussion of Jesus' origin: from God? sinful?
- C2) 18-23: parents & Jewish authorities question of person's identity; process of healing
- D2) 24-34: ex-blind person & authorities discussion of Jesus' origin: from God? sinful?
- B) 35-38: *Jesus* & ex-blind person bringing the person to full spiritual insight
- A) 39-41: *Jesus* & the Pharisees relation of sin & blindness

5th Sunday of Lent – LIFE: Martha, Mary, and Lazarus (John 11:1-54)

- A) 1-6: Introduction: Jesus receives the message from Martha and Mary
- B) 7-16: Jesus and his disciples talk about Lazarus and death
- C) 17-27: Jesus and MARTHA talk about resurrection and life
- C) 28-37: Jesus and MARY show sorrow and love
- B) 38-44: Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead
- A) 45-54: Conclusion: Various reactions by the Jews

The Conclusion of the Book of Signs (John 11:55-57; 12:1-36a, 44-50, 36b-43)

- 11:55-57 – Expectations before the Passover
- 12:1-11 – The Anointing at Bethany (*Monday in Holy Week*)
- 12:12-19 – Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem (*Palm Sunday, opt. in Year B; vv. 12-16*)
- 12:20-26 – The Hour of Jesus Has Come (*5th Sunday of Lent, Year B; vv. 20-33*)
- 12:27-36a – Jesus Speaks of His Impending Death
- 12:44-50 – Jesus' Last Public Words (*Wednesday in 4th Week of Easter*)
- 12:36b-43 – The Narrator's Summary and Conclusion