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# Bible Study

## Lesson 3

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### *The book of John*



### *Jesus Is Life*

In Lesson 2 we studied about a man named Nicodemus. Today we will study about a women who is quite different from Nicodemus. We will see how Jesus talked with this women and explained salvation to her.

Nicodemus was a Jew; this women was a **Samaritan**. Jews usually hated people from Samaria because they had different ways. Nicodemus was greatly respected in his community. This women was not respected. She was an outcast. Nicodemus was a teacher and had good knowledge. This woman was ignorant. Nicodemus was a rich man. This woman was poor. Two completely different people . . . yet Jesus knew how to be friends with both.

In this lesson we will also see how Jesus talked with a nobleman (royal person) who only wanted Jesus because He was a miracle worker. But something happened to this nobleman that he did not expect. Something happened to the women at the well that she did not expect. What happened? Study carefully . . . maybe the same thing will happen to you.

**Search the Scriptures:** John 4:1-54; 5:1-47. Eternal life is in Christ. This is the guarantee of our resurrection. If we know Christ we will live forever.

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# Interpretation

## I. THE WATER OF LIFE

**John 4:10-14. Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water. The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence (where) then hast thou that living water? Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle? Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.**

When Jesus traveled to Galilee He usually went the shortest way. This time, Jesus was going back to Galilee and He took a different way. He went out of His usual way because He knew that a woman was in great need of Him. Jesus usually went straight through the Jordan Valley on His way to Galilee. This time He went through Samaria. When He was traveling through Samaria He stopped at a famous water well that had been built many years before by Jacob. His disciples went into a nearby town to buy some food. Jesus stayed at the well. There at Jacob's well, Jesus met a woman drawing (pulling) water.

Most Jews and Samaritans were enemies. They usually did not speak to each other. But Jesus saw that this woman was not happy. She needed something more than water from Jacob's well.

If Jesus wanted to, He could have ignored her. She was from Samaria. Jesus could have told her that she was a sinner and would die and go to hell. No, Jesus was more gentle than that. Jesus had a fine attitude. He made her feel like a real friend. Jesus asked her for a drink. This made the woman feel important because she could help this Stranger. Then Jesus said, "If you knew who you were talking with, you would ask Me to give you **living water**." (See John 4:10.)

The woman did not understand immediately. She said, "You mean that you have water that is better than the water from Jacob's well? Are you greater than our father Jacob?" (See John 4:12.)

The woman had her mind on natural water that she could carry in a pitcher. Her mind was full of earthly things. She did not yet understand what Jesus meant.

Jesus began to tell the woman about her own self. He told her many things that she had done. Jesus began to explain how she should worship God. The woman said that only the Messiah (the Christ) could tell her these things. Then Jesus showed her who He was. Jesus said, "I am the Messiah that you look for." (See John 4:26.)



## Word Power

1. **SAMARITAN** — A person who lived in Samaria. Samaria was a place in Palestine, east of the Jordan river valley. Look at a map of the New Testament Bible days and find Samaria.
2. **LIVING WATER (WATER OF LIFE)** — When you are thirsty, water makes you satisfied. Jesus does the same thing for your soul. He satisfies! He is the Water of Life.
3. **NOBLEMAN** — A very good man, usually in the upper class (wealthy) and famous because of his family name. People looked up (respected) to these men.
4. **PROPHET** — Speaker for God. John the Baptist was a speaker for God. He spoke God's message to the people.

Did the woman believe? Yes! She became so excited that she forgot all about her pots of water. She forgot all about her business and went back into the city. Her life became a great witness to many others in the city, and they too accepted Jesus.

### II. THE WORD OF LIFE

**John 4:46-51.** So Jesus came again to Cana of Galilee . . . And there was a certain nobleman whose son was sick at Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, he went unto Him, and besought (plead) him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death. Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe. The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere (before) my child die. Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. *And the man believed the word* that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way. And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth.

When Jesus returned to Galilee, many people followed Him and welcomed Him because they wanted to see more miracles. Jesus knew that the only reason they followed Him was to see what great things He would do next.

The **nobleman** never cared about Jesus before. But now his son was dying and he was desperate. The nobleman forgot about his pride as a leader in his community and came to Jesus. He wanted Jesus only because he thought Jesus could do a miracle for him and heal his son. The nobleman did not see Jesus as the Son of God; he saw Jesus only as a man who could do miracles. He didn't care how Jesus did it; the nobleman just wanted his son to live.

Jesus gently scolded the nobleman so that he would truly believe. Jesus refused to go with the nobleman to his home. Jesus wanted the nobleman to trust in His word. So Jesus simply said, "Go thy way; thy son liveth."

The nobleman believed! Soon his whole family accepted Jesus because they trusted in His word.

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Today Jesus wants us to do the same. Jesus wants us to trust in His Word. If we will simply believe His Word, our lives will be changed and we will truly know Him.

### III. THE WITNESS OF LIFE

**John 5:33, 35, 36, 39. Ye sent unto John, and he bare witness unto the truth. He was a burning and a shining light: and ye were willing for a season (time) to rejoice in his light. But I have a greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.**

Who is the source (start) of life? Jesus is the source of life. Jesus is the only One who can give life—eternal life! There are four witnesses in the Bible verses you have just read. Go back to John 5:33-39. Can you find the four witnesses?

1. John the Baptist. Israel did not have a **prophet** for four hundred years. Then John the Baptist came along and prophesied the coming of Jesus. The people were happy that Israel had a prophet now. But they did not listen to his message. They did not follow the One (Jesus) that he told them to follow.

2. The miracles of Jesus. The people saw the miracles that Jesus did, but they did not really “see” Jesus as the Son of God. The miracle of Jesus are a witness that He is the source of life.

3. The Father, God. The people did not really know or believe God. Jesus was the only Son of God. He was sent to earth to show us more about who God is. Jesus proved that God loved each person because Jesus gave His life for each person. God, the Father, sent Jesus to earth to forgive each person of his sins, if that person would believe.

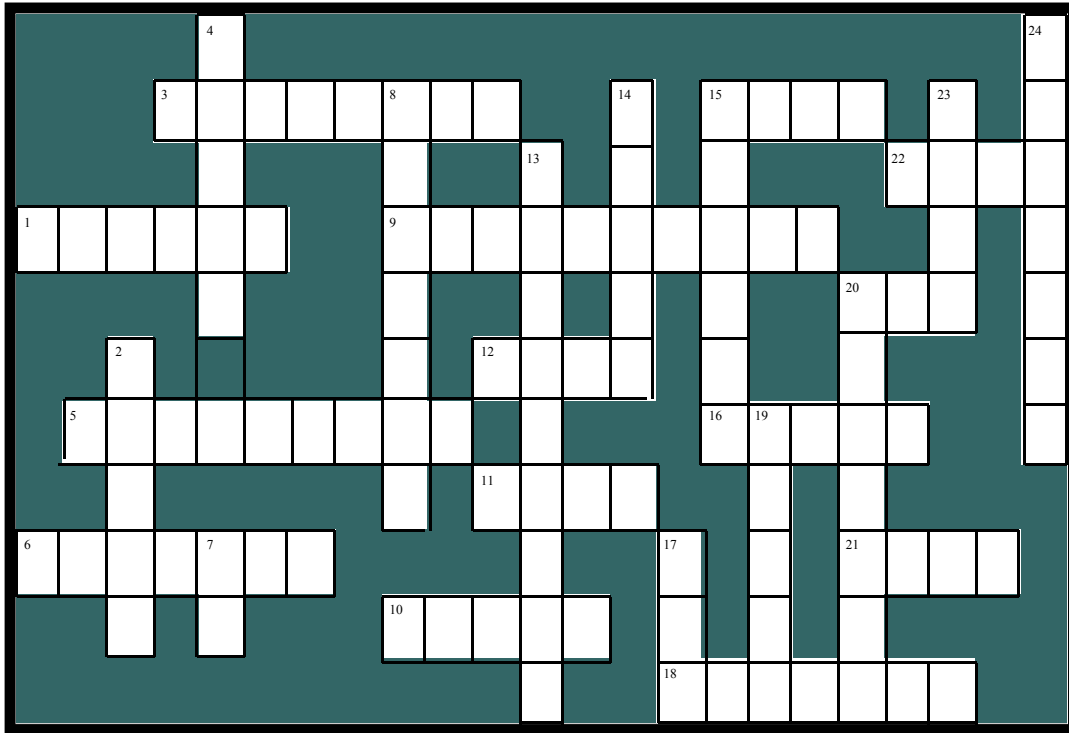
4. The Scriptures. Jesus told them to search the Scriptures. The people searched. They knew the meaning of the words in their Scriptures, but they missed the true message. The true message is Jesus Christ. Many Jews kept the Law and trusted in the Law, but they neglected what the Scriptures said about Christ.

Yes, Jesus is the Water of Life because He is our salvation. Jesus is the Word of Life. If we believe on His Word, we will know Him. Jesus is the Life. Four witnesses in John chapter 5 testify that Jesus is the Life. If you really want to live, then know Jesus!



# ?? THINK ??

Crossword



## DOWN

2. Name of person who made the well (John 4:12).
4. Person at the well with Jesus; female.
7. Short word meaning hello.
8. Jewish word meaning Christ.
13. Ruler of the Jews who came to Jesus one night.
14. Jesus gave the woman at the well "living \_\_\_\_\_"
15. Another name for Messiah.
17. Nationality of Nicodemus.
19. Jesus will lead you in the \_\_\_\_\_ way: opposite left.
20. Jesus came to Cana of \_\_\_\_\_ (John 4:46).
23. Title of section II; "The \_\_\_\_\_ of Life"
24. Israel did not have a prophet for four \_\_\_\_\_ years.

## ACROSS

1. Jesus usually went through the \_\_\_\_\_ valley to Galilee.
3. Royal person
5. Nationality of woman at the well
6. Speaker for God
9. Jesus said to "Search the \_\_\_\_\_" (John 3:39)
10. Son of God; Saviour
11. Eternal place for sinners; opposite heaven
12. Number of witnesses in John 5:33-39
15. City in Galilee where Jesus met the nobleman
16. Verily
18. Title of section III, "The \_\_\_\_\_ of Life"
20. Heavenly Father
21. Title of lesson; "Jesus Is \_\_\_\_\_"
22. \_\_\_\_\_ the Baptist; name of prophet

**For correct answers**

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