

## KEEPING FAITH FIRST- FAMILY FUN

I E T E R N A L T R  
Q Q T E K R B B E L  
F O H N T E K C U B  
K L I S L T T D N N  
N R O I I S H T R I  
D E E C B I F R V A  
X V R D K C Z B P T  
E E M D D S T G M N  
E N R M L L L E W U  
S A M A R I T A N O  
C V W O R S H I P M  
Y E N R U O J C A T  
H T G N J W X I D H  
K A D I A J R G N I  
I Y I T O A Y P J R  
U Z E S M T J L A S  
V R E A S V N E C T  
Q P S L P E S D O Y  
H B W J Q G M F B M

BELIEVE  
BUCKET  
CHILDREN  
CISTERN  
DRINK  
ETERNAL  
FLOCKS  
JACOB

JOSEPH  
JOURNEY  
MESSIAH  
MOUNTAIN  
SAMARIA  
SAMARITAN  
THIRSTY  
WATER

WELL  
WORSHIP

## Catechizing Corner!

As we continue our reflection on discipleship, looking at the woman at the well might provide us with insights of just how Jesus elects even the most unusual people to be his disciples.

First of all she is a woman and a Samaritan, the lowest on society's totem pole. Even the pagans hated Samaritans. She was an outcast's outcast! Yet this outcast, woman, and Samaritan encounters Christ. Jesus, a Jew, not only spoke to her and notices her, but he drank from her bucket (making him ritually unclean). The woman was trained by her culture to believe she was worthless. Yet this Jew offered her acceptance, dignity, compassion, a way out, and a way in! Donald Senior, noted Bible scholar, suggests that this woman has much more to teach us than a lesson on morality. It is the story between the lines we dare to hear. Jesus welcomed the lost and included the sinner, the outsider. Jesus acknowledged Samaria's rightful place in salvation history while still affirming Yahweh's covenant with the Jews. In the new kingdom people would live in biblical justice, in right relationship with God.

What was this disciple's response? She recognized Jesus for who he was, the Messiah and Lord. She could do no less that "go and tell everyone...and they all came to believe on her testimony."

Mary Birmingham, *Word and Worship Workbook, Cycle A*  
Paulist Press, 1998



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South Pasadena, CA  
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## Disciple's Reflection

for the  
*Question*  
*of the Week*

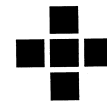
**Third Sunday of Lent**  
**3/12/2023**

**A Call to Prayer**

**The Word of God**  
**John 4:5-42**

**Faith Sharing**  
**Questions of the week**

**Closing Prayer**



**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH**

**Holy Family is a welcoming Catholic Eucharistic community of disciples of Jesus Christ connecting faith with life and reaching out to those in need!**

## Call to Prayer

**Begin by calling upon God: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.**

Let us pause for a moment and listen attentively to this week's passage.

## The Word of God John 4:5-42

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there.

Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon.

A woman of Samaria came to draw water.

Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."

His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.

The **Samaritan** woman said to him, "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?"

For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.

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

"Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the **cistern** is deep; where then can you get this living water?"

Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?"

Jesus answered and said to her,

"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst;

the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.

"I can see that you are a prophet.

Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain; but you people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem."

Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you do not understand; we worship what we understand, because salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship him. God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth."

The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking with you."

Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him. When the Samaritans came to him, they invited him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days.

Many more began to believe in him because of his word, and they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the savior of the world."

### The Gospel of the Lord



### Gospel Glossary

**Samaritans** were a group of people who lived in Samaria, who were often mistrusted by the Jews.

A **cistern** is a well

A **prophet** is a holy man who shares special wisdom from God

**To worship** is to love God and to pray to him.

## Faith Sharing

### Questions of the Week:

How do you experience Jesus helping and loving you?

Jesus revealed himself to an outcast of society. How can you be "living water" to the outcasts of your school? society? The world?

When you are tempted to try to satisfy your "thirst for meaning" through some other means, what keeps you coming back to the living water of intimacy with Christ? Through what means do you experience Christ's power in your life: sacraments? scripture? prayer? others?

## Closing Prayer

Lord, You have called us to be your disciples, to live in faith, walking always in your footsteps. By your suffering, death, and resurrection, you have made us children of God. As you have loved us and asked us to love one another, help us to love and embrace everyone in our lives.

Fill us with love, compassion, forgiveness, patience, understanding, and tolerance, even when we face the pain of hatred, rejection, and failure.

Guide us to be good disciples. May we seek always the praise and glory of God and the good of all people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Third Sunday of Lent*