

HOW TO SHARE YOUR FAITH LIKE JESUS



1. What characteristics come to mind when you think of Jesus sharing his faith?
Are there particular stories or passages of Scripture that come to mind?

2. Read John 4:1-26

1. The Pharisees heard that Jesus was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John, 2 although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples. 3 When the Lord learned of this, he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee. 4. Now he had to go through Samaria. 5 So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour.

7 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" 8 (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) 10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." 11 "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?" 13 Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

15 The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water." 16 He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back." 17 "I have no husband," she replied. Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. 18 The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true."

19 "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. 20 Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." 21 Jesus declared, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in spirit and in truth." 25 The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." 26 Then Jesus declared, "I who speak to you am he."

1. In verses 6-9, Jesus makes contact with someone and begins conversation by establishing some common ground...both of them were there for water.
 - Where do we find ourselves that we can initiate conversation based on common ground with others?
2. In verses 10-14, Jesus begins to arouse her interest in spiritual things.
 - How does he do this? What are some leading questions that we can use to arouse spiritual interest?
3. In verses 15-18, Jesus reveals something about this woman.
 - How do you think he knew this information? How can we rely on the Holy Spirit to help us as we witness to others.
4. In verses 15-18, Jesus discovers what kind of woman he is speaking to and yet he does not condemn her as a wicked person.
 - What does this say to us as we attempt to reach out to others?
5. In verses 19-24, the woman tries to divert Jesus' attention away from herself by asking questions.
 - How does he respond? What are some questions or excuses that we might hear when we attempt to share our faith? How can we respond to them?
6. In verses 25-26, Jesus confronts her directly with the Messiah.
 - How do we confront people with the Messiah today?