



Spring 2021, Gathering #1
February 22

The first two days of *I Thirst* reflects on the story of the Samaritan Woman at the Well at the beginning of John Chapter 4. The story many know - the Samaritan woman, in her sinfulness, encounters Jesus at the well and is transformed. The author concludes the Day Two study reflecting on John 4:28, "So the woman left her water jar...".

Tonight's discussion will be drawn from the rest of the story in John 4.

The woman left her water jar and went into the town and said to the people, "Come see a man who told me everything I have done. Could he possibly be the Messiah?" They went out of the town and came to him... Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me everything I have done." 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."

John 4: 28-30, 39-42

Small Group Discussion:

1. The woman left her jar at the well. She no longer needs her own false thirsts. Just as the disciples put down their nets to follow Jesus, there is a release of old to breakthrough with joy to the new. 2020 was a long year for many that brought unique challenges. What do you need to "leave behind" to break through with joy? Speak also to the fruits of 2020 that you want to help blossom as you move forward.
2. Imagine as the Samaritan woman ran to her town and proclaimed her witness to the townspeople. Who has been a witness of Christ to you? How does your spouse witness to you? How can you better witness to your spouse?
3. The Samaritans invited Jesus to stay and he stayed there two days. As the community experienced life with Jesus, one can assume complete and total conversion amidst the town. As you consider your community as a couple/family, what does your "Catholic village" look like right now? Who are people influencing you and your children? How do they support your family's values?
4. Samaritans in verse 40 explain that they initially believed because of the Samaritan woman's word, but they heard for themselves and they "knew this is truly the savior of the world." What has been helpful on your faith journey as a couple as you grow to truly know Jesus? What steps, no matter how small, can you do as a couple and a family to deepen your faith?

Take Home Questions:

1. Come up with simple ways to be a better witness to your spouse. How can we work together better to share Christ's love with one another?
2. After contemplating what our "Catholic village" looks like, are we pleased? In what ways we can strengthen our Catholic village for our marriage and our family?
3. How can we take greater initiative in sharing the gospel with others? Is there anyone in particular we feel called to reach out to? How should we move forward?