

**The Woman at the Well**  
**4G: John, the Maverick Gospel (Message 8)**  
**John 4:1-26**

- I. **An encounter with Jesus confronts us with the truth about ourselves.** *“Go, call your husband and come back”* (John 4:16 NIV).
- a. Denial and dishonesty give sin its power.
  - b. Facing up to our failures gives us freedom.
  - c. Our truth is found in our relationships.
- II. **An encounter with Jesus confronts us with the truth of who he is.**
- a. She wants to argue religion; Jesus wants her to face reality. *‘I who speak to you am he’* (John 4:26 NIV).
  - b. Jesus confronts.
    - i. *“What you have just said is quite true”* (John 4:18 NIV).
    - ii. *“Salvation is from the Jews”* (John 4:22 NIV).
    - iii. *“I am the Messiah”* (John 4:26 TLB).
  - c. Jesus instructs.
    - i. *Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth”* John 4:23-24 NIV.
- III. **An encounter with Jesus requires a response.**
- a. The woman’s response (John 4:28-30).
    - i. She left her water jar. Why?
    - ii. She found others. *“Come and see...”* (John 4:29 NCV).
  - b. The disciples’ response (John 4:27-33).
    - i. Silence.
    - ii. Changed the subject.
    - iii. Missed the point.
  - c. The community’s response: belief. (John 4:39-42) Compare to John 15:1-5: fruit (*“many believed”*); more fruit (*“many more believed”*); and today continues to bear *“much fruit”* to God’s glory.
  - d. Jesus’ response.
    - i. Deep satisfaction: *“I have food to eat that you know nothing about”* (John 4:32 NIV). *“Seek your life’s nourishment in your life’s work.”* (Phillips Brooks).
    - ii. Long stay (John 4:40).
    - iii. Call to harvest (John 4:35 – 38). Jesus goes from Jerusalem (2:23) to Judea (3:22) to Samaria (4:4). The Samaritans declare him “the Savior of the world.” Perfect parallel to Acts 1:8: “witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, world.”

