



"Let Him in!"

Finding Life in the One Born to Be the Savior of the World

John 4:1-42

December 14, 2025

BIG IDEA

Jesus came into the world to meet us in our deepest need. Just as he crossed every boundary to meet a weary Samaritan woman at a lonely well, he comes to us today—seeing our past, knowing our hurts, and offering living water that alone can satisfy the soul. Advent reminds us that the Savior who met her in Samaria first arrived in Bethlehem to rescue us from sin and fill the emptiness nothing else can heal. When we let him in—truly in—he transforms our story, restores our hope, and sends us out as witnesses of his grace. The only question is whether we will open the door of our hearts and receive him.

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE

John 4:1-42 (ESV)

(Encourage readers to read the whole passage devotionally.)

Key moments include:

- Jesus intentionally traveling through Samaria (vv. 1-6)
- His surprising conversation with the Samaritan woman (vv. 7-15)
- His revelation of her past and her dignity (vv. 16-24)
- His declaration: "I who speak to you am he" (v. 26)
- The woman's transformed witness and the town's belief (vv. 28-42)

MAIN THEME

The story of Jesus and the Samaritan woman reveals the heart of Advent: Jesus came to seek, save, and satisfy those who are spiritually thirsty. He crosses barriers we cannot cross, heals wounds we cannot fix, and fills the emptiness we cannot satisfy on our own.

This woman came to Jacob's well carrying shame, exhaustion, and years of disappointment. But Jesus came carrying grace, truth, and living water. He knew her history, her pain, her sin—and yet he pursued her, spoke to her, and loved her.



That same Jesus, who sat beside a well in weary humanity, was once laid in a manger in Bethlehem. The One who formed the oceans wrapped himself in flesh so that thirsty souls could find life in him.

To “let him in” means allowing the Savior to move past our defenses, surface-level conversations, and self-protective habits. It means allowing him to speak to the places we hide. And it means discovering that the One who knows you best loves you most.

When a church opens its heart to Jesus this way, it becomes a well of living water in a dry and thirsty world—overflowing with hope, love, and transformation.

DISCUSSION & APPLICATION

1. Jesus Will Go to Any Length to Reach You

John 4:1–6; Luke 19:10

- Jesus “had to pass through Samaria”—why is that phrase so important spiritually?
- What barriers (shame, busyness, fear, past wounds) often keep people from sensing Jesus’ pursuit?
- Can you name a time when Jesus clearly pursued your heart?
- What would it look like this week to stop avoiding him and invite him into the real places of your life?

2. Jesus Knows What You Need—and When You Need It

John 4:7–15; Psalm 139:1–4

- The woman tried to keep the conversation surface-level. What surfaces do we hide behind today?
- Why is it easier to talk about circumstances than about our souls?
- Jesus offered her “living water.” What forms of “temporary water” do people drink instead (success, relationships, distractions, habits)?
- How might Jesus be trying to move past the surface in your life right now?

3. Jesus Sees Your Past but Offers You a New Future

John 4:16–26; Romans 5:8

- Jesus reveals her past—but without condemnation. Why is this distinction so important?
- What does this teach us about how Jesus treats our failures and sins?



- What would change if you truly believed Jesus already knows everything about you—and stays?
- How does Advent strengthen your confidence in Jesus as the promised Savior?

4. Don't Ignore Jesus—He Came to Give You Abundant and Eternal Life

John 4:26, 39–42; Isaiah 7:14; 53:5–6; 61:1

- Why do you think Jesus revealed his identity (“I who speak to you am he”) so clearly to this outcast woman?
- How do the prophecies in Isaiah deepen our understanding of Jesus’ mission?
- Why is ignoring Jesus so spiritually dangerous?
- How can Ridgewood Church live as a community overflowing with “living water” for Minnetonka and the world?

PRAY

Father, thank you for sending your Son—the Savior who sits with the weary, speaks to the broken, and fills thirsty souls with living water. Thank you that Jesus knows us completely and yet loves us perfectly. Teach us not to hide from him but to let him into every corner of our hearts. Make us a church overflowing with hope, grace, and the transforming power of your Spirit. Use Ridgewood to reach those who are thirsty for truth and longing for life. Let this Advent season draw us closer to Jesus, the Savior of the world. Amen.

DIG DEEPER

For further study this week:

- **Isaiah 7:14** — The promise of “Immanuel”
- **Isaiah 53:5–6** — The suffering Savior who brings healing
- **Isaiah 61:1–3** — The Servant who brings freedom and hope
- **John 7:37–39** — Jesus’ invitation to the thirsty
- **Revelation 22:17** — The final invitation of Scripture: “Come... take the water of life”

NEXT WEEK'S BIG IDEA

“Just Jesus”
Could it really be that simple?

