



the point of IMPACT

Week 6 Devotionals...

The Impact of Worth

She was an outcast. Five divorces will do that to you. Then she met a stranger who knew everything about her and still bestowed dignity on her. And she found her worth in a new kind of relationship.

Monday, May 11

Read Take a few moments to read the whole story, John 4:1-42. Reflect on verse 4, “Now he had to go through Samaria.”

Review Jesus didn’t actually have to go through Samaria. Most Jews wouldn’t have but the path he chose was not one of convenience but obedience. There was a divine appointment that would be well worth it.

Respond Jesus goes out of his way to engage those that most go out of their way to avoid. As you think about your schedule this week ask God to show you where you need to go “out of your way” in order to engage with those that most people avoid. Be on the lookout for some divine appointments.

Tuesday, May 12

Read Spend some time today focusing on John 4:5-10.

Review There was a **HIGH WALL** around that well (the wall of race, gender, sin and worthlessness). Jews considered Samaritans to be perverted in blood and in faith. Women in that day were considered inferior in every way. Her sin is why she is trying to avoid people. She lived in a world that had ways to measure people based on the assumption that some lives matter more than others. And racially, sexually and morally, she was in “last place.” Things haven’t changed that much, have they? People still use some pretty worthless ways to establish worth. But Jesus was and is different. Jesus never treated a human being like an issue (he didn’t see a woman who needed a lecture, but some water).

Respond As you reflect on the HIGH WALL around that well think about how these walls still exist today. Think of at least one person in your life who often feels like this woman must have felt. What is one thing you could do to start to break down a wall?

Wednesday, May 13

Read John 4:11-15

Review **No trip is worth it that ends at the wrong well.** Her soul was as parched as the land she lived in and Jesus knew she would keep feeling what she was feeling as long as she kept doing what she was doing. The woman thought she needed a bigger bucket; Jesus said she needed a better well. How many times do we keep going to the wells that we hope will offer value only to discover that we are still thirsty?

Respond We often choose wells that numb our pain but never nourish our soul. Our souls thirst for God (Psalm 42:1-2) yet we look for worth and significance elsewhere. Identify one well that you have gone to a lot looking for validation (maybe its performance, romance, rules, religion, appearance or something else). Talk with someone today about what your soul really thirsts for. Ask God for clarity about what you really need.

Thursday, May 14

Read John 7:37-38

Review **Only Jesus can satisfy the thirst for worth.** Most think the answer to their thirst is outside of them. That's why they wear themselves out searching for wells that prove to be cisterns. Nothing outside of you, no matter how valuable, can be the measure of your value. Jesus is the only well for your soul.

Respond Think about a time when you thought the answer to your "thirst" was outside of you (perhaps it was your "looks" or your family or a relationship). What is the danger of looking for your worth in anything other than Jesus? If you are in that place right now, look to the One who went to the cross and said, "I thirst" so that you don't have to. Ask God to satisfy your thirst for worth.

Friday, May 15

Read John 4:28-30

Review **You will become a bucket for Jesus!** Jesus is the well for your soul and when you drink from him there will be an impact. She went from avoiding people to seeking them. She left her bucket at the well, but she was still carrying water.

Respond You can give no greater blessing to those you love than sharing the good news of Jesus with them. Make a list of 5-10 people you need to "share" Jesus with and ask God to give you the opportunities to start doing it.