SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

John

Chapter 4

Living Water for a Thirsty Town

MEMORY VERSE · JOHN 4:14

“but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.”

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in John 4

Jesus went out of His way to sit by a well and wait for a woman everyone else avoided. This week He is waiting for you the same way — tired of nothing, ashamed of no one, and offering water that ends the thirst you have been trying to quench everywhere else.

How to use this journal

1. Each day, read the passage slowly — out loud if you can.
2. Answer the **Observe** question from the text before you write what it means.
3. Write honestly on the **Reflect** questions. No one grades this.
4. Do the **Respond** step today, not someday. Say the memory verse.
5. Bring this journal to the group. The last page is for the table.

The full Deep Dive, the O·I·A study and the slides for this chapter are on the John study page.

WHERE I AM AS I START THIS CHAPTER

What is going on in my life right now that I want to bring to God this week?

DAY 1 OF 5

He Had to Go There

READ · JOHN 4:1–9

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Where is Jesus going, what town does He stop at, how is He feeling, and what time of day is it (4:3–6)?

REFLECT

John says Jesus "had to pass through Samaria" (4:4), the place most Jews avoided. Who is the person or place you avoid, and why might Jesus want you there?

REFLECT

Jesus was "wearied from His journey" (4:6). How does it help you to know that the Son of God got tired, and still made time for one hurting person?

RESPOND — TODAY

Reach out today to one man you usually avoid or overlook — a call, a text or a simple "how are you, really?"

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 4:14)

DAY 2 OF 5

Living Water

READ · JOHN 4:10–15

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What two kinds of water does Jesus compare, and what does He promise about the water He gives (4:13–14)?

REFLECT

"Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again" (4:13). What wells have you kept going back to — a habit, a substance, a person, a screen — that always leave you thirsty?

REFLECT

Jesus said, "If you knew the gift of God … you would have asked Him" (4:10). What keeps you from simply asking Jesus for what you need?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pray the woman's prayer out loud today: "Sir, give me this water" (4:15), and name the dry place in you that needs it.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 4:14)

DAY 3 OF 5

He Told Me Everything

READ · JOHN 4:16–26

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does Jesus tell the woman about her life, and what does He say true worshipers will do (4:17–18, 23–24)?

REFLECT

When Jesus brought up her husbands, she changed the subject to an argument about mountains (4:19–20). What subject do you change to when God gets close to your sin?

REFLECT

Jesus said the Father is seeking people to worship Him "in spirit and truth" (4:23). What would worship from the heart, shaped by God's Word, look like for you on an ordinary Tuesday?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down one true thing about your past you have been hiding, and then write next to it: "He knows, and He still offers me living water."

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 4:14)

DAY 4 OF 5

Leave the Waterpot

READ · JOHN 4:27–42

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does the woman leave behind, what does she tell the men of the city, and what do the townspeople end up calling Jesus (4:28–29, 42)?

REFLECT

She came for water and left her waterpot (4:28). What is one thing you used to carry everywhere that you can set down now that you have met Jesus?

REFLECT

Jesus told His disciples, "lift up your eyes and look on the fields" (4:35). Who around you right now is ready to hear about Jesus if someone would just tell him?

RESPOND — TODAY

Use the woman's words with one person today: "Come, see a man who told me all the things that I have done" (4:29) — tell him in one or two sentences what Jesus has done for you.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 4:14)

DAY 5 OF 5

Go; Your Son Lives

READ · JOHN 4:43–54

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does the royal official ask Jesus to do, what does Jesus do instead, and when did the boy get better (4:47–52)?

REFLECT

The man "believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started off" before he saw anything (4:50). What promise of God are you being asked to walk on before you see the answer?

REFLECT

Jesus said, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you simply will not believe" (4:48). Where have you been demanding that God prove Himself before you will trust Him?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pick one promise from this chapter, write it on a card, and carry it with you today as your "word to walk home on."

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 4:14)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Jesus crossed the walls of race, gender and reputation to talk with the woman at the well (4:7–9, 27). What walls are still standing between men in our group or our community, and how might Jesus cross them through us?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

The Samaritans first believed because of the woman's word, and then because they heard Jesus for themselves (4:39–42). What does it look like to move from another man's faith to your own?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

The official's faith grew from a desperate request to a whole household believing (4:47, 50, 53). What step of faith is God asking each of us to take for our own families this week?

MY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, You know all the things that I have done and still offer me living water, so today I come thirsty and ask You to…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · JOHN 4:14

"but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."