

Life Group Guide John 4:1–26 “A Lesson in Personal Evangelism”
For the Sermon Preached on Sun Jan 21 & For Use in Life Groups through Sun Jan 28

Icebreaker Question

Who was the biggest mentor in your life as a child or as a young adult?

Pastor Richard’s Sermon Outline

- I. Personal Evangelism Requires Intentional Interaction (vv. 1-6)**

Personal evangelism is the act of sharing the gospel with another person.

 - a. “Lifestyle evangelism” is an evangelism strategy that focuses on living a holy, appealing life among unbelievers with the goal of attracting people to the message of Jesus Christ.
 - b. “Servant Evangelism” is sharing God’s love by simply serving others in practical ways without asking for or expecting anything in return.
 - c. “Friendship Evangelism” requires you to develop relationships (friendships) with unbelievers in order to gain a voice to share the Gospel.
- II. Personal Evangelism Easily Flows from Casual Contacts (vv. 7-8)**
 - a. Daily life allows opportunities to make connections with people for a Gospel conversation.
 - b. Gospel conversations do not have to be forced, but rather can easily flow from everyday life encounters.
- III. Personal Evangelism Overlooks Cultural and Social Barriers (v. 9)**
 - a. our words should stir interest in your message (vv. 9-14).
 - b. Your lifestyle should cause people to consider your message (vv. 15-19; 1 Pet. 3:15).
- IV. Personal Evangelism Requires You to Stay on Message (vv. 19-24)**
 - a. People naturally attempt to change a topic that makes them uncomfortable (vv. 19-20).
 - b. You have a message of truth and of eternal value (vv. 23-24).
Life on Mission App
Share Your Faith App
- V. Personal Evangelism Requires You to Speak the Gospel Truth and Leave the Results to God (vv. 25-30, 39)**
 - a. Jesus alone is the answer to the emptiness people are experiencing in life (vv. 25-26).
 - b. Jesus alone can bring change to your life (v. 39).

John 4:1–26

Read John 4:1–26: Observation:

1. In 4:1–6, where was Jesus coming from? Where was He going? What area did He pass through to get there? Where did He stop in that area?
2. In 4:7–9, who showed up at the well with Jesus? What did he ask her? Why was this request unusual?
3. In 4:10, what did Jesus claim He would give her if she knew who He was?
4. In 4:11–12, as the woman doesn’t understand Jesus, what does she ask Him?
5. In 4:13–14, how does Jesus compare His water to the well’s water?
6. In 4:15–18, when the woman asks for this water, what does Jesus ask her to do? Why can’t she do this? What does Jesus know about her?
7. In 4:19–20, whom does she understand Jesus to be? What question troubles her?
8. In 4:21–22, what does Jesus say about the hour that is coming for these two mountains? What does He say about the distinctions between Jews and Samaritans?
9. In 4:23–24, how will true worshipers worship the Father?
10. In 4:25–26, for whom is she waiting? Who does Jesus claim to be?

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Interpretation:

11. In what ways was this woman unlikely to be a follower of Jesus? What parts of her conversation with Jesus revealed she was truly listening and trying to understand Him? What did she begin the conversation talking about? What did she end up talking about in its end? How do real, practical life situations help us have gospel conversations with others?
12. Why is it important to worship God in spirit and in truth? How is such worship made possible? What should we know about ourselves and God in order to worship Him rightly? Where and when should we worship God in spirit and in truth?

Application:

13. Who are the least likely people in your life to come to know Jesus? How will you pray for them this week that they will come to know Him and that you will take a part in such work?
 14. What parts of your life distract you from enjoying your life with Jesus as your living water? What patterns of living can you change to make sure that He is your living water this week?
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John 4:27–42

Read John 4:27–42: Observation

15. In 4:27–30, who returns to Jesus, and who departs from Him? What does she say to the people of her town? What did they do?
16. In 4:31–33, what do the disciples want Jesus to do? How does He answer them? How do they respond to His answer?
17. In 4:34, what is Jesus’ food?
18. In 4:35–38, is the time for harvest and reaping now or later? Did the disciples reap what they sowed or what another sowed?
19. In 4:39–40, who came to Jesus? What did they ask of Him? What did He do?
20. In 4:41–42, what happened to them during this time? What did they learn about Jesus? Why did they learn so well?

Interpretation

21. What role did the woman’s testimony have in helping the Samaritans worship Jesus rightly? How was she applying the lessons of 4:35–38? How were the disciples not doing so? Do we also struggle with applying the lessons of 4:35–38? Why? What can we change about how we “look at the fields?”
22. How should this text encourage those who do share the gospel but do not see any visible results? Why is it important that her words led to them hearing Jesus’ words? What should we consider to be Jesus’ words?

Application

23. Please memorize John 4:34. What will be our “food” this week? What parts of your life can you change this week so that you make doing His will as important as making sure you eat?
 24. How might you use John 4 to share the gospel with a co-worker or neighbor?
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