

York St Small Groups

Sermon Based Studies

SUNDAY 30th August 2020

Jesus: The Gospel of John

Transformational Encounters (John 4)



These studies are designed to be explored after hearing the Sunday sermon and also to be accompanied by a time of prayer/sharing.



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GETTING STARTED

Q1. Can you think of a time when you experienced something that transformed your life? Was that a positive or negative experience?

Q2. Why do you think that moment transformed or changed you?

Q3. Are there people in your life that you find it hard to forgive? People who have wronged you or people that you find it hard to be around?

INTO THE WORD

Read John 4:1-6

Q4. Jesus' followers were already learning from Jesus and baptizing people however, word spread so Jesus moved on. Jesus' humanity is shown in his tiredness in verse 6. Knowing that Jesus felt what we feel, got tired like we get tired, why do you think that matters to us today? What's the benefit of training up the disciples?

Read John 4:7-16

Q4. Jesus, even in his tiredness, accepts and has a conversation with the Samaritan woman - someone whose culture, lifestyle and life choices would have made her looked down upon by most people. How does this contrast with how society sees Christians and how we treat others today?

GOING DEEPER

Read John 4:17-26

Q5. Jesus sees beyond the physical needs of the woman, showing her deep need for a relationship with God. In the midst of her guilt and shame, she jumps at the idea of having ‘water that will never run out’, but Jesus also sees she is searching for something much greater. How can we also allow Jesus to speak into those areas of our life that need radical transformation? What are we running from? What are we ashamed of? what do we want to hide?

Read John 1:28-30

Q6. In meeting Jesus the woman left her earthly desires behind (the water jar) and went back to the place she was running from (the townspeople). One encounter with Jesus was enough for her to shed her fears, and gave her purpose and meaning in life once again. What radical transformation do we have because of Jesus? What have we left behind because of him, what do we run into for the sake of the gospel?

Pray

Lord Jesus we ask that we would have a radical transformation within us once again, a change that allows the fears and anxieties that we have to fall away for the sake of your call on our lives. Help us to treat others the way you treat them and love others the way you love us. In your name we pray, Amen.