

How Jesus Won Souls

How Jesus Won Souls (John 4:1-26)

I. Contact others socially (vv. 1-4)

Simply talking with someone is the 1st step

A Jewish male talking to a Samaritan woman? In public, absolutely.

II. Establish Common Ground (vv. 7-9)

“A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give Me a drink.” For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, “How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?” For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.”

“Give me a drink” – I’m thirsty, water

III. Arouse Interest (vv. 10-15)

“Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.” The woman said to Him, “Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?” Jesus answered and said to her, “Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.” The woman said to Him, “Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw.”

He took the natural need for water to the supernatural

He brought up God and living water

Jesus led the conversation

“If you knew the gift of God”

Possible Questions:

- What do you think God wants for us?
- What do you believe?
- What do you think about religion?
- Are you interested in spiritual things?
- What does that t-shirt or jewelry mean?
- What do you think is wrong with the world?
- What is next, after this life?

If they mention:

Loneliness, emptiness, depression, failures, broken relationships, burdens, problems.

“You know I once...” share a testimony.

IV. Don't condemn them (running them off) (vv. 16-19)

“Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.” The woman answered and said, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You have well said, ‘I have no husband,’¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly.” The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet.”

Jesus had a word of knowledge about the woman's past.

He highlighted her need for God's forgiveness yet did not condemn her.

This is the art of Evangelism

By your words, their awareness of their need is revived.

❖ **John 8:10-11**

“When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, “Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?” She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said to her, “Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.”

❖ **2 Corinthians 5:19**

“that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.”

“It was God [personally present] in Christ, reconciling *and* restoring the world to favor with Himself, not counting up *and* holding against [men] their trespasses [but cancelling them], and committing to us the message of reconciliation (of the restoration to favor).” (Amplified)

We are all guilty.

❖ **Romans 2:1**

“Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.”

We are all in need of Jesus.

❖ **John 14:6**

“Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

❖ **Acts 4:12**

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

V. Stay on Track (vv. 20-26)

“Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you *Jews* say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to Him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When He comes, He will tell us all things.” Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am *He*.”

The purpose of soul winning is to save their soul.

Not to be a minister.
Not to win an argument.
Not to add someone to your church.
Not to fulfill service hours.

Jesus brought her to a decision about Him.

I am the Messiah, I am He. (vv. 25-26)
Bring people to a decision about Jesus.

He is either: Lord, a liar, or a lunatic.

Testify about why you believe what you do about Him, and the difference He has made in your life.

VI. Confront the person directly.

“What do you need to change to get to know God?”

“Would you like to know your sins are forgiven?”

“Would you like to become a real Christian?”

“How close to God are you?”

“Are you going to spend eternity with God?”

“What will you say when you stand before Him?”

Salvation Proofs:

❖ **John 10:27**

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.”

❖ **Romans 8:16**

“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,”

❖ **2 Corinthians 5:17**

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

VII. Follow-up (vv. 27-43)

Jesus went to Samaria and taught two days.

Meet with them again and “preach Christ”.

Putting this into Practice

- A. Take advantage of _____. Invite people to your home/life. Look for opportunities to meet with neighbors.
- B. Ask them _____ about themselves. Find out about their family, children, job, hobbies, and their interests.
- C. Be a good _____. Give them your full attention. Use their need as an opportunity to bless and minister to them. Don’t just listen to them, hear their hearts.

D. Look for opportunities to _____.

Winning souls will be an investment of time. Give your time to others. Use your talents and possessions to reach people.

E. Watch your _____.

❖ **Philippians 2:14-16**

“Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.”

Let your light shine.

Others will see the difference Jesus has made in you, if you spend time with them.

F. Look for opportunities to plant _____. Use everyday activities as opportunities to testify about God’s goodness.

G. Be _____ to times of heightened receptivity. During times of illness, bereavement, and other difficulties, people are more open to the Gospel.

H. Be _____. People are not a project. Sometimes we sow, we water, and sometimes we reap.

What could you do to plant gospel seed in the heart of an unsaved relative, friend, neighbor, employee, acquaintance on the job? During this week, do it.