

WEEK FIVE
THE TRUE WELL

SERMON NOTES

→ THIRST is a helpful GUIDE but a cruel MASTER

→ "CHOOSE your TEMPLE" wisely.

→ Don't see a person's PAST when God sees a person's POTENTIAL

READING PLAN

Mon Jn 7:1-9	Tues Jn 7:10-24	Wed Jn 7:25-31	Thurs Jn 7:32-44	Fri Jn 7:45-53
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STUDY/DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read John 4:1-9. Jesus crossed significant cultural barriers when talking to this Samaritan woman. Name them. What are some examples of cultural barriers for us in the Madison area?

2. Read John 4:10-15. What does Jesus offer the woman? Why is she surprised by this question? What does Jesus really mean (hint: read John 7:37-39).

3. Can you name some examples of things our culture "thirsts" for? What do we assume will satisfy our deepest longings?

4. Read John 4:16-18. Jesus exposes the woman's past. She's either guilty of marital infidelity, or is the victim of men repeatedly divorcing her. Why would Jesus' promise of "living water" matter more to someone like her?

5. Read John 4:19-26. According to Jesus, what does "true worship" look like?

6. Read John 4:27-42. How did the disciples initially react to Jesus' conversation with the Samaritan woman? What does this reveal about their understanding of the gospel? Are there ways that you and I might stumble in showing grace to others?

7. A friend asks you why you bother with church. After all, aren't there more fun ways to spend your time? Doesn't Christianity simply place you in a straitjacket? How would you respond to this statement?

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

- Do you consider yourself driven more by your mind or by your feelings?
- Do you think that human beings have to satisfy their desires to be truly happy? Why or why not?
- Do you think we should teach our kids to "trust their hearts?" Why or why not?