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Servants of Excellence

Encouraging pregnancy care center volunteer & paid staff

Jesus looks for those who simply want more

By Kirk Walden, Publisher of The LifeTrends Connection

“I know that Messiah is coming; when that one comes, he will declare all things to us.”—The Samaritan woman at the well, John 4:25



If we ever wonder what motivates Jesus, we need look no further than the Samaritan woman in John 4. We know the story: Jesus makes a point to walk through Samaria and while there, comes upon a woman at a well.

Jesus asks for water, then enters a conversation where he begins revealing things a stranger would never know about her life. The woman asks about where worship takes place; pointing out the divide between “normal” Israelites and her Samaritan roots, and Jesus—in

a sentence—tears down this man-made division between the two groups.

Then in verse 25, the woman mentions the Messiah. Inherent in her words quoted above is the thought, “Wow, you sure seem like you could be that Messiah—who are you, anyway?” At this point, Jesus reveals himself. He is—in every sense of the word—the one she has been waiting for, and more.

The beautiful picture here is that Jesus apparently doesn’t see this woman as a sinner needing to prostrate herself in repentance of sackcloth and ashes. Instead, he sees her as a seeker *wanting more*. She has a past, to be sure. But Jesus is much more interested in her present desires; and in her future relationship with him.

That’s why he shares something intimate about himself with her: “I who speak to you am he.”

What about us? Are we so caught up in our past—and in the past of others perhaps—that we miss what Jesus truly wants from us? Jesus wants our desire to want more of him, to know him more intimately and to go further in our faith than we could ever dream.

Perhaps that means dealing with our past; although there is no record in scripture that the woman at the well did so. It doesn’t mean she *didn’t*; but the emphasis here is on where she is going—not on what she has done.

And where does this woman go? Immediately, she tells her friends she thinks she’s found *Messiah*. As a result, many become Jesus’ disciples. This is a lesson for us all, that Jesus wants—more than anything—our desire for more of him and for his father, Almighty God.

Those who want *more* move forward. Let’s be those who want more. When we ask for more from God and from his son—Jesus—we’ll surely receive it—and we will change the world around us.

Servants of Excellence is a LifeTrends publication

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