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Study on
The Book of John
Part 5

Summary: Nicodemus was a Pharisee who had to stand up against his position and prestige in order to come to Jesus. He came in the evening, which is the ultimate time for an uninterrupted encounter and this modeled for us a balanced approach to the Father. We need to understand both the scriptures and the power of God in our lives. Jesus teaches Nicodemus what it means to be born again so that he would be able to see the Kingdom of God. When we allow the Spirit of God, which is mysterious as the wind, it will lead us on a journey of incredible encounters with God. It is this kind of revelation that Jesus shares with Nicodemus for him to understand God's love for the entire world and how the response to this love will determine whether we become part of His family or we come under condemnation because of the penalty of sin. This wrath that will be experienced from sin's penalty is an expression of the Father's love. Jesus was the perfect expression of the love of God and his life was a testimony to how this love can be received and lived out in our lives as we accept God's love through his son.

Introduction:

There are several times in life of the believer when the Holy Spirit will guide you to places you had no intention of going, and meeting people you had no intention of meeting. As you become comfortable in your sonship, the fatherhood of God will become more of a reality to you. Through this relationship the world will come into a greater knowledge of the Father's love through you.

Opening Prayer:

Abba Father, I thank you for the example of your Son, Jesus. Help me as an adopted child to become more like your natural son. Help me to be someone who is steered by your gentle voice to go to places and interact with people where I

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can be used by you in remarkable ways. Thank you for your wisdom and insight.
In Jesus name, Amen.

Memorization Scripture:

John 4:23-24 “Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

1. Why did John say that Jesus “had to” go through Samaria?

- a. There are times when we are compelled by the Holy Spirit to do something different than we’ve ever done before.
- b. Jesus modeled the intimate relationship with the Father that we as sons and daughters should have.
- c. What kind of miracles would we see and be a part of if we obeyed the “had to” of the Holy Spirit?
- d. Any examples of times you’ve listened? Or times you ignored and later wished you’d been obedient?

2. (Vs. 5-6) There are some locations that are just especially marked by grace. Places of divine encounter and heavenly visitation.

- a. We can pray this for our homes, our church, our region, our jobs.

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3. **(Vs. 7)** This exchange points to the Father heart of God. Jesus' interaction with this woman shows us the extravagant and relentlessly inclusive nature of Daddy's love.
- a. Our Father doesn't accept cultural prejudices.
 - b. How does this perspective line up with the way many are preaching Christianity today?
4. **(Vs. 13-14)** Jesus makes himself relevant to everyone. He finds a way of getting through to those who are thirsty for God.
- a. Let's take a moment and lift up people in your life who are spiritually thirsty, that they would have an extraordinary awakening. Write their names:

5. **(Vs. 16-19)** It is Jesus' prophetic insight that changes the whole tenor of the conversation.
- a. Prophecy in evangelism has the power to bring about radical transformation.
 - b. Prophetic evangelism is a key to spiritual harvest.
 - c. Prophecy leads us to an encounter with the Christ and pointing her to the Father.
6. **(Vs. 21)** Jesus allowed her to introduce the subject of worship but then used her words as the springboard for talking about the Father's love for her.
- a. What do you think was Jesus' intention in the changing of the conversation?

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- b.** He uses the word “Father”, which produced an earthquake in her soul. It had the connotations of profound intimacy.
- c.** He redefines worship. He says that true worship is not restricted to holy sites. It can happen anywhere.
- d.** This transforms this woman’s life because she had been looking for a long time in men what she could only find in the Father’s love.
- e.** This is the good news for this fatherless world we live in today. Write in your own words what the good news means for mankind.

- 7.** The greatest need that a human being has is the need to love and be loved. As we encounter Jesus, he introduces us to the perfect father.
 - a.** This is what true worship is. It is an overflow of love from a heart that has been captured by the affection of the world’s greatest dad.
 - b.** We must worship the Father in the Holy Spirit and in the truth (Jesus). We worship spiritually and authentically.
- 8.** She becomes the first person in the Gospel of John to whom Jesus reveals his divinity. Jesus revealed through this interaction that the Father longs to adopt sons and daughters.
- 9. (Vs. 28-30)** Why does she become so excited that she leaves her jar and never gives Jesus a drink?

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- a. She leaves with worth, value and esteem.
 - b. An encounter with the Father's love does the same thing for us.
- 10. (Vs. 34)** Jesus is teaching a lesson to the disciples about consumerism vs. evangelism.
- a. It is a choice many churches have to make. It is either "feed me" or "feed them".
 - b. John's story encourages us to be the Samaritan woman, not the disciples.
- 11. (Vs. 35-38)** Jesus invites the disciples to take a look into what is happening in the background.
- a. Many times, we, like the disciples need to look out instead of looking in.
 - b. Evangelism is not supposed to be hard, miserable or complicated. It is simply sowing seeds of Abba's love into lost people's lives through words, works and wonders.
 - c. Most of us are called to sow, and some are called to reap. They have a special grace for helping people to be born again.
- 12. (Vs. 39-41)** John's gospel is remarkable in its positive portrayal of the active and pioneering role of women.
- a. The Samaritan woman is one of the first people to become an ambassador of the Father's love.

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- b.** She is nameless and represents the revival that is coming to our time. An army of nameless, faceless heroes and sheroes sharing Daddy's love.
- 13. (Vs. 42)** The revelation that Jesus is the "savior of the world" was radical and dynamic.
 - a.** Believers in the first century applied titles to Jesus that were politically explosive. "Son of God", "Saviour of the world", and "Lord" were radical terms of danger.
 - b.** The suffering church around the world must endure this persecution as well.
- 14. (Vs. 43-54)** The kingdom of God is for the desperate.
 - a.** If we want to see heaven invading and lives being changed then we must be prepared to be passionate for this to happen.
 - b.** Expectation, which includes passion, is the breeding ground for the miraculous.
 - c.** Jesus speaks to people who came with the father who needed to see "wonders". The Father is desperate; the crowd only wants the spectacular.