



The Gospel According to John

Lesson 10: [John 4:1-42](#)

November 18, 2014

1. Preparation: Read [John 4: 1-42](#). Pray. Write out and then memorize [John 4:14](#).

2. Study: [John 4:1-42](#). Read Kostenberger, *Encountering John*, Chapter 6, pages 73-75.
 - a. **Observation:**
 - (1) **Where** was Jesus at the beginning of this Scripture passage?

 - (2) **Where** was Jesus going next ([John 4:3](#))? Where did he stop in route ([John 4:4-5](#))?

 - (3) **Who** did Jesus meet?

 - (4) **What** did Jesus ask for?

 - (5) **How** did the person respond?

 - (6) **How** did Jesus respond?

 - (7) **How** did the people nearby respond?

 - (8) **How** did Jesus' disciples respond to the situation?

 - b. **Interpretation:** What does the Scripture passage mean?
 - (1) **Where** is the country of Samaria in relation to Judea and Galilee? [[MAP](#)]

 - (2) **What** are the historical roots of Samaria? [<http://bibleatlas.org/samaria.htm>]

 - (3) **Who** were the Samaritans? How did they differ from the other Jewish tribes at the time? [<http://bibleencyclopedia.com/samaritans.htm>, [Matthew 10:1-7](#), [John 8:48](#), [Luke 10:30-37](#), [17:11-19](#)]

(4) **What** is the importance of “Jacob’s Well”? [[John 4:6](#), [Genesis 33:18-20](#), [Encyclopedia](#)]

(5) **Why** was the Samaritan woman surprised that Jesus spoke to her? [[John 4:9](#)]

(6) **Why** were the disciples amazed Jesus was speaking to the Samaritan woman?

(7) **What** is the possible symbolic importance of Jacob’s Well in Jesus’ response in [John 4:13-14](#). Would John’s reference to Jacob’s Well have had any significance to Jewish readers?

(8) **What** was the purpose of Jesus’ comments on the woman’s marital history and status?

(9) **How** does Jesus turn the woman’s attention from physical needs to spiritual needs?

(10) Does Jesus in essence do the same thing with his disciples in these passages? If so, **how**?

(11) Could there be some importance in how John orders the timing of Jesus’ testimony?

(a) What group is represented by the person to whom Jesus presents His message in [John 3](#)?

(b) What group is represented by the Samaritan woman in [John 4](#)?

(c) Was Jesus’ message ultimately intended to reach other groups? [[John 17:20-21](#)]

(12) What did Jesus mean when he says the fields are “ripe for harvest” in [John 4:35](#)?

c. **Application:** How will you apply this Scripture passage in your life?

1. Have you accepted Jesus Christ as the “living water” in your life? Share your story.

2. How are you “sowing” and “reaping” as discussed in [John 4:31-38](#)?

3. Write out [John 4:14](#) from memory.

4. Conclude your study time with prayer.