

# *Living the Word*

## A Bible Study for Missionary Discipleship

### Session 9

### John 4:1-26

### *“Give Me a Drink”*



Diocese of  
**CROOKSTON**  
[www.crookston.org](http://www.crookston.org)

Office of Formation in Discipleship

P.O. Box 610 | Crookston, Minnesota | 56716

T: (218) 281-4533 | F: (218) 281-5991

# Living the Word

## Missionary Discipleship Bible Study

### Session 9

#### OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, create in us an ever-growing faith, with hearts open and centered in you. Awaken within us the fire of your Spirit, so that your love may fill us more fully, and flow throughout our lives. Increase within us a desire to reach out, to invite and to share, to welcome and accept. Awaken the faith of all your children, especially those who have grown distant from you, those ready to hear an invitation to the love you alone can bring. Awaken us, loving God, to see the fullness of your grace and peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord . Amen

#### OPENING PSALM

(one person (or group) read line 1 and one person (or group) read line 2)

#### **Psalm 25**

#### **Prayer for Guidance and for Deliverance**

#### **Of David.**

<sup>1</sup>To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

<sup>2</sup>Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

<sup>1</sup>Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

<sup>2</sup>Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

<sup>1</sup>Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

<sup>2</sup>For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great. Who are they that fear the LORD? He will teach them the way that they should choose. They will abide in prosperity, and their children shall possess the land. The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him, and he makes his covenant known to them.

## OPENING REFLECTION VIDEO

[Living as Missionary Disciples | Send: Fr. Frank Donio, S.A.C.](#)



## THIS WEEKS BIBLE PASSAGE

*“Give Me a Drink”*

**John 4:1-26**

### **Jesus and the Woman of Samaria**

**4** Now when Jesus<sup>[a]</sup> learned that the Pharisees had heard, “Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John” <sup>2</sup>—although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized— <sup>3</sup> he left Judea and started back to Galilee. <sup>4</sup> But he had to go through Samaria. <sup>5</sup> So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.”

<sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." <sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; <sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" <sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you<sup>[c]</sup> say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." <sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am he,<sup>[d]</sup> the one who is speaking to you."

### REFLECTION

The dialog between this woman and Jesus is rather peculiar given there is no one else present to record this story. Did Jesus share this story with John the disciple at some later point? Let us think of a time when you have had an encounter with someone, and the conversation that was just between you and another person. Would religion or your faith be a topic you would bring up?

Reflecting on what Jesus spoke: "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,'. What would your reaction have been? Do we easily recognize the word of God when it is spoken to us? Jesus often speaks to us in the ordinary moments of our lives, how well are we listening?

When Jesus is a part of our everyday lives, it becomes natural for us to share with others about our encounters with Jesus including at the Mass. If your co-workers or people you hang out

with are Christian, wouldn't we want to share with them what we hear in the Sunday readings or the Homily?

There is a rich insight we can take from this reading. Jesus didn't just socialize with those who were considered "worthy." He broke the invisible barriers that existed between Jew and Gentile, man and woman. This woman seems almost confused as to why she would be fortunate of such an encounter with the Messiah.

Her interest in the water of eternal life that Jesus is referring to appears to be an answer she didn't know she was looking for. She even begs Jesus to give her this water.

### PAUSE FOR SILENT PRAYER

Pray a decade of the Rosary reflecting on the third Luminous Mystery: "The proclamation of the kingdom of God"

(One Our Father, 10 Hail Marys and Glory Be).

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Does Jesus's true identity remain concealed to us at times?
2. Many times, in scriptures Jesus is surrounded by crowds of people. How often do we take the initiative to encounter Jesus one on one?
3. How often are we willing to share our faith one on one with someone?

### CALL TO ACTION

Encounter with the risen Christ will always lead us to conversion and community. Every moment of Jesus's public ministry was either proclaiming the kingdom of God or inviting others into God's kingdom. How can you proclaim the kingdom of God in your life and what can you do to invite others to grow to know about this kingdom?

### CLOSING PRAYER

## Missionary Discipleship Prayer

Leader: *"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*

*But how can they call on him in whom they have not believed?*

*And how can they believe in him of whom they have not heard?*

*And how can they hear without someone to preach?*

*And how can people preach unless they are sent? –Romans 10: 13-15*

All: Heavenly Father,

Pour forth your Holy Spirit to inspire us with these words from Holy Scripture,  
so that we might be strengthened to go forth  
and witness to the Gospel in our daily lives  
through our words and actions.

In moments of hesitation, remind us:

- If not me, then who will proclaim the Gospel?
- If not now, then when will the Gospel be proclaimed?
- If not the truth of the Gospel, then what shall I proclaim?

Give us the grace that we might hear the call of the New Evangelization  
and become a Missionary Disciple, deepening our faith,  
growing in confidence to proclaim the Gospel  
and boldly witnessing to the saving grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

O Mary, our Immaculate Mother, pray for us.

Inspire us to imitate your example  
as the first disciple of your son, Jesus,  
who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

Leader: *Mary, Star of the New Evangelization*, All: pray for us.

*St. Joseph*, All: pray for us.

*St. Thérèse of Lisieux*, All: pray for us.

*St. John Paul II*, All: pray for us.