

LESSON TITLE: Woman at the Well

LESSON OVERVIEW: To teach children that Jesus loves us and has a plan for all people. No matter what color, what size, or where they live. We can go and tell others about Him!

BIBLE STORY: Woman at the Well

MEMORY VERSE: Jesus said to her, "those who drink the water I give, will never be thirsty again." John 4:14

TEACHING OBJECTIVE: To teach children how to love and care about everyone, even those that are different and we need to share what Jesus has done for us.

SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR THE LESSON

- Part 1: The Gathering: A box of saltine crackers, 4 bottles of water, gospel wristbands for kids who haven't received one.
- Part 2: Bible Lesson Leader: Bible
- Part 3: Memory Verse Activity: Blue painter's tape or sticky tak, 4 Blue poster boards and 4 markers for each grade group (usually 3 different grade groups of kids ex. K-1st, 2nd-3rd, 4th-5th). Optional: sticky notes for the extra activity.
- Part 4: Game Leader: 24 balloons, 6 laundry baskets (to be used as wells) and masking tape.
- Part 5: Small Group Time: A copy of small group questions for each small group of 7 10 kids

PART 1: THE GATHERING (35 minutes)

Welcome and Prayer (5 minutes)
Worship (15 minutes) - led by a reviveKIDS representative

Introduction to Lesson: (10 minutes) Who's Thirsty?

SUPPLIES: 1 Box of Saltine Crackers, 4 bottles of water and possibly a plastic tablecloth if you are not in a room with a tile floor.

PREPARE: Get out the box of saltine crackers. Have older kids (ex. 4th & 5th) stand near the box. Place four bottles of water near the crackers. Choose four students to come to the front.

The four of you are going to race and see who can eat the most saltine crackers in two minutes. Whoever completely swallows the most crackers wins. You might notice the water bottles near the crackers. Well, you can't have any water. Sorry. The rest of you in the audience, your job is to cheer for all four of them. Make some noise. Ready, set, go!

After congratulating the winner, say – I have a question for all four of you. What does your mouth feel like right now? (Get responses) How thirsty are you? (Get responses) What would you think if I said you couldn't have any water till after church? (Get responses) Well, that wouldn't be fair of me, would it? I can see you're very thirsty, so each of you, go ahead and take a bottle of water to drink.

Our lesson tonight is about a woman who was thirsty. She was not only thirsty for water, but so much more. She wanted something that wouldn't just satisfy her thirst, but something that would satisfy and fill her heart. And it did! So much that she wanted to go and tell others about it.

We have been talking this week about who Jesus is and how much He loves us. Raise your hand if you have not received a gospel wristband and Bible this week. Let's go over those colors on the wristband once again.

- **Yellow** is Sin, remember that sin is anything that we say, think or do that breaks God's heart.
- **Black** is Death, what we deserve for our sin is death (to be forever separated from God).
- Red is Love, God showed you and I His love by sending Jesus to pay the price for our sin and death.
- Blue is Faith, when we believe and trust in something or someone we can't see.
- Green is Life, we have life forever with God when we believe and trust in Jesus.

Let's pray and ask God to help us understand and listen to what He has for us tonight.

PART 2: BIBLE LESSON (25 minutes)

BIBLE LESSON TEXT: John 4:4-42

SUPPLIES: Bible

PREPARE: Be ready to tell the story (with your Bible open) learn the motions that go along with the words "Jesus, woman and water." Please avoid reading the story from this curriculum.

INTRODUCTION TO LESSON: Tell the kids that you need them to listen for three words during the Bible lesson tonight. The three words are Jesus, water, and woman. Instruct them to make the following motions when they hear the words:

Jesus - do the sign language for Jesus (use the pointer finger to touch the palm of both hands).

woman - move your hands from the top of your head down like you have long hair.

water - act like you are taking a drink.

Teaching Tip: Make sure your Bible is in your hand opened to John 4. Don't rush through the story. Speak loudly, take your time and use your own words so that you are able to do it without looking at the curriculum.

BIBLE LESSON: Jesus was traveling back to Galilee with his disciples and He had to go through Samaria. Because they had been traveling a long distance, Jesus was thirsty so He sat down by Jacob's well to get some water to drink. When a Samaritan woman came to get water, Jesus asked her to give Him a drink. The crazy thing is that Jews didn't normally talk to Samaritan people so the woman asked, how can you ask me for a drink? Jesus told her that "if you knew the gift of God and who it was that asked you, you would have asked Him for a drink and He would have given you living water."

Jesus told her that everyone who drinks of the water from the well will become thirsty again but if they drink of the water that I give, will NEVER, thirst again. In fact, Jesus said that it will become like a spring of water welling up to eternal life. Wait a minute! If you are like me when I first read this, you are probably wondering how that happens. How many of you have ever taken a drink of water and never gotten thirsty again? None of us. Why? Because while our bodies can go many days without food, we cannot go even 3 days without water.

Boys and girls, Jesus is no longer talking literally about the water we drink but the life that we can have through knowing Jesus as our savior. The woman asked Him to give her the water so that she would not have to keep coming to the well. I don't think she really got what Jesus was saying here, do you? Jesus told her to go get her husband. She didn't have a husband and Jesus told her, "you are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands." The woman knew he must be a

prophet (someone who tells a message from God) because He just told her about her past. She then started asking Jesus about where the right place to worship was. He told her that it was not about where you worship, but that true worshipers will worship in spirit and in truth.

Jesus then told her that He was the Messiah, the promised one that would come. Right then, she left her water pot to go back to town to tell the people about Jesus. Many of the Samaritans believed in Jesus because of the woman's testimony. A testimony is simply telling people about something exciting that has happened to you. In this case, she told about who Jesus was and what He had done at the well.

The Bible doesn't give us this woman's name, but through her many came to know Jesus. In John 4:42, the Bible says, "They said to the woman, we no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world." She was so excited about all that Jesus had said and done that she couldn't help but go and tell. That is what Jesus wants us to do and why we have this revive week. To help us learn how we can go and give our testimony by telling others about who Jesus is and what He has done for us.

Do you know people who do not know Him? Jesus has given you, like the woman at the well, a story to tell so that others may come to know God. Let's take just a few minutes and give you an opportunity to tell your story of how you accepted jesus (ask for volunteers to share about coming to know Jesus. You may need to share your own story if there are no kids willing to share). Encourage those who do share their story.

Boys and girls, we at reviveKIDS want you to be encouraged to go and tell others about Jesus just like the woman at the well did. She was thirsty for water but Jesus gave her so much more. He gave her eternal life with God. He gave her forgiveness of her sin. He gave her hope. He gave her joy. He gave her peace. He gave her a story to tell!

Maybe you are here tonight and you would say, I don't have a story to tell. Perhaps you have never heard of Jesus' love for you. You see, our sin separates us from God but you can trust Jesus to pay the price for your sin and death and place your faith (your belief) in Him so that you may know and live with God forever. If you have more questions about what that means, please feel free to talk with me or one of the other leaders. (Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit to give opportunity for kids to make a decision right then.)

I want you to think about someone who needs to hear the story of Jesus and how much He loves them. Let's take a few moments to stop and pray for them right now.

Continue to discuss the Bible lesson until it is time for kids to rotate to next activity.

PART 3: MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY/GAME (25 minutes) - Bible Verse Relay

Jesus said to her, "those who drink the water I give, will never be thirsty again."

John 4:14

SUPPLIES: Blue painter's tape or sticky tak, 4 Blue poster boards and 4 markers for each grade group (usually 3 different grade groups of kids - ex. K-1st, 2nd-3rd, 4th-6th). Optional: sticky notes for the extra activity.

PREPARATION: Tape or Sticky tak the poster boards to each wall in the room.

READ THE VERSE: Read the verse aloud several times and/or ask several children to read it out loud with you.

EXPLAIN THE VERSE: In our Bible lesson tonight, we have heard or will hear about the woman at the well. Jesus told her that He could give her living water and she would never thirst again. Jesus was not talking about water like bottled water or well water. Jesus was talking about a relationship with Him.

LEARN THE VERSE: Bible Verse Relay

Print the memory verse on a poster board. Read the verse together. Hide the verse. Divide the children into teams. Give each team a Bible and a marker. Attach one poster board per team to the wall. The first child runs to the paper, writes the first word of the verse and runs back. He hands the marker to the second child who writes the second word. Continue until the verse and reference are written. If a team member needs to look at the verse, the whole team must look up the Bible verse. The first team to finish wins.

EXTRA ACTIVITY: Once the kids have written the verse on the posterboard, see how well they learned it. Say the verse and then use a sticky note to cover one or two words and have kids say the verse again. Continue covering the words of the verse until they cannot see it but are able to quote it by memory.

PART 4: GAMES (25 minutes)

SUPPLIES: 24 balloons, 6 laundry baskets or trashcans (to be used as wells) and masking tape.

PREPARATION: Divide the play area into 2 sections, using the masking tape as a line. Place 2 laundry baskets at the back, and one in the middle of each section. Place 4 balloons in each basket.

INSTRUCTION: Divide the group into 2 even teams. One player from each team acts as goalie, guarding the balloons about 3 feet from the well. Game leader says "GO" and the kids will run to the other side of the line and try to steal balloons to bring back to their well. Players can only grab one balloon at a time. If a kid is tagged by the goalie, they will have to freeze until a team member untags them. If a kid is tagged by the opposite team, they have to give them the balloon and start again. Each round lasts 5-7 minutes and can be played until it's time to rotate. Whichever team has the most balloons in the end wins the game.

EXTRA ACTIVITY: Play a game of telephone. Phrase the words "woman at the well" a little differently by saying "the woman who fell." have the kids sit in a row, whispering from one ear to the next. At the end of the row, the last kid will shout what they heard.

PART 5: SMALL GROUP TIME

- 1. If I were to ask you what your greatest need was, what would you say?
- 2. Jesus went to Samaria and met the woman at the well. What was her greatest need? (to know Jesus)
- 3. Jesus told the woman about her past, do you think that surprised her? (Yes, because He told her things that He could not have known if He wasn't Jesus)
- 4. Jesus knows everything about YOU. How does that make you feel?
- 5. Regardless of all of those things that Jesus knows about you, He loves you anyway. Now, how does that make you feel?
- 6. We have discussed the verses on the wristband this week and one of those verses in particular tells us how God showed His love to us. Do you remember what it is? (Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrated His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.")
- 7. The woman at the well was so excited about Jesus that she had to go and tell others. He wants all of us to GO and tell just like she did. Can you think of someone that you know that doesn't know God?
- 8. Spend some time praying for those who do not know God.
- 9. Walk through the wristband and the Bible showing the kids again how they can share Jesus with their friends.

Spend time allowing the kids to pray for one another to know and follow Jesus.