

## *The Hundredfold Soil*

*The study this week is on the women at the well in John 4. You're probably wondering how this study can be titled "The Hundredfold Soil". As we walk through this portion of scripture along with others you will see that the word that Jesus sowed into the parched soul of this women returned a hundredfold back into the Kingdom of God. What a blessing when we give people the living water.*

### **1. Read John 4:1-26**

*Focus on verses 1-9*

*The Jews hated the Samaritan people. They would not associate with them. Not only was this woman a Samaritan but also the fact of Jesus ministering to her had many cultural implications. A man was never to speak to a woman in public whom he did not know, especially a rabbi. What are some of our own racial biases that could hinder us in our proclamation of the gospel? Think how we can have preconceived notions about people through misinformation that hinders us in sharing Jesus. Are not "all" people made in God's image deserving of Jesus?*

### **2. Read verses 10-14**

*Think about how Jesus was ministering to her. He uses the word "gift" here and in the greek it is the only time this word is used in John. It means grace through Christ. Already Jesus is setting her up for salvation. Jesus asks her for a drink. To use her cup would have made him "unclean". Jesus sets asides mans traditions to minister to a broken soul.*

### **3. Read verses 15-17**

*Of course, Jesus knew all about her.*

*Discuss this women life. The text does not tell us what happened to her but lets discuss the possibilities.*

*What sort of abuse had she suffered? Physical, verbal, sexual?*

*These caused her to have a wounded, broken, and parched soul.*

*She could not attach to a husband. She found relationships difficult and felt used.*

*Abuse does that to a person.*

*Discuss how Christ has healed your own heart of pain and abuse.*

*How should we as the church minister like the "Great Physician" Jesus?*

*His words would not have condemned, judged, or wounded deeper, but would have been the beginning of healing.*

### **4. Read verses 27-30, 39-42**

*This woman became an amazing evangelist. Forgetting her water pot because of who she met, she runs back to her community telling everyone*

**Read Mark 4:20**

*Jesus sowed his word into this women's parched soul. She returned the word a hundredfold and many came to faith. Broken people who find Christ become great evangelists. Praise God!!*