



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Series: Jesus is our Friend  
Winter Year 1, Lesson 35

# The Woman at the Well

**Bible Event:** John 4:4-30

**Take Home Point:** \*JESUS IS EVERYONE'S FRIEND –  
*Love everyone too.*

\*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (*CAPS*). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

**Jesus Link:** Jesus does not think as the world does: he loves everyone.

**What kids will learn about God in this worship experience:**

- Children will learn that God loved the world so much that he gave his son Jesus. Jesus gave his life for all people so that we could be friends with God again. Jesus showed this when he was friendly with the woman at the well. Though everyone else was surprised that Jesus would be a friend to her, Jesus was eager to help her learn that God loved her also. She discovered that Jesus is God's son and he can change our lives so that we, too, can love everyone. Kids will take home the point: **\*JESUS IS EVERYONE'S FRIEND – *Love everyone too.***
- Children will respond to God's love as they pray to him and thank him for giving him Jesus. They will offer him their songs of worship, their offerings, and their actions of love as they actively learn God's Word.

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## Welcome Zone: (15-20 minutes)

**Purpose:** While kids arrive give them a simple learning readiness activity that requires minimal supervision. This might include a video, games, blocks, or puzzles.

**Video Suggestion:** Are You My Neighbor? Veggie Tales, Big Idea Productions, 1995.

**Activity Suggestion:** Blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons.



## Opening Worship: (10-15 minutes)

Children can bring forward the cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box. The treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event. Open with a simple prayer having the children repeat after you. Collect offering and talk about how God will use it.

## Praise Songs:

Choose two or three songs and list them here.

## Bible Event: A Visit from a Dramatized Character

A costumed adult presents the Bible event by telling it from a first person point of view. This person should be introduced by asking children to put on their imagination hats so they imagine that this really is the person in the Bible event.

### The Samaritan Woman at the Well

Introduce the story from the Bible.

The Bible is God's Word and it is true. Today we read from John 4 about the Samaritan woman at the well. Oh my. It says here that Jesus and his disciples or followers were going through the land of Samaria. Most of his disciples and other Jews didn't like anyone from Samaria. That's because they thought they were so much better than Samaritans. But when Jesus was left alone at a well, he met a woman from Samaria. Instead of being mean to her, Jesus was nice to her. He talked to her. He told her about having something to drink, one that more than takes care of your thirst. It makes you feel good on the inside. He called it living water. But it wasn't really water, it was God's love filling you up. Let's find out more by having a special pretend character talk to us.

To do that we need to put on our imagination hats and our listening ears. Let me introduce to you the Samaritan woman at the well.

# **The Woman at the Well**

## **A Monologue**

**Hi! I am a Samaritan. That means I lived in the land of Samaria a long time ago. Back then, nobody liked us. Not very nice, huh? And you're probably wondering why. Well the reason was because we didn't worship God like the others and we lived in a very different land. One day, a most wonderful thing happened to me and it changed my life. Let me tell you about it – May I?... Please? (Group says, – “YES!”) Thank you.**

**It was at the hot part of the day when I went to the well in the center of my village to get water. That's the only way we could get water back then. It was to dip our bucket in the well in the middle of the village. We would lower it down with a rope and then pull it back up. It would have water in it. Then we would carry it home. Many times the ladies would gather at the well to dip their buckets in the water but, also, to visit with one another. But I didn't usually go to the well when they were there because they would make fun of me. They said I could never keep a husband. They thought they were too good for me. So, I used to go to the well alone.**

**On this one special day, when I went to the well, there was another man there. But he wasn't like us Samaritans, he was a Jew. I could tell by the way he talked and dressed. I looked down right away. I knew that he wouldn't want to talk to me. All the Jews thought Samaritans weren't very nice. Besides that, since I was a woman, a man would never talk to me when I'm at the well gathering water. But guess what? He talked to me. He asked me for a drink. I was surprised. He said something so I told him, “Why are you talking to me?” He said, “If you only knew who I was, you would talk to me and ask me for a drink. Then, I would give you living water.” Now, he was speaking in riddles. Living water? I thought to myself, “What is living water?” I didn't know so I asked him. “Sir, please give me living water then I won't get thirsty or have to come here anymore to get water.”**

**This man said, “Before I give you this living water, why don't you bring your husband here?” When he asked me that, I told him a lie. I said, “I don't have a husband.” But as soon as I said it, he knew I was telling a lie. I was covering something up. Now I could tell he was someone special – from God. He knew things about me that no one else did.**

**So, I said, “You are a special person. You must be from God.” He said, “That is true. The time is coming that people will worship God in spirit and truth.” That means they'll worship God by talking right**

to him. I thought to myself that would be wonderful. To worship God by talking right to him?! I wish I could do that. But I knew I wouldn't be able to do that until God sent his own son into the world... his promised one who would help fix our hearts so that we could be right toward God. So when I told him I would like to worship that way, but I'm waiting for the promised one, God's only son. This man looked at me and he said, "I am the promised one." Do you know what his name was? Yes, this was Jesus - God's own son! And, he was interested in me! A Samaritan woman!

I found out that day that he loved me just as I am, even if I had done things that are wrong. He showed me that God loves everyone. Because of that, we can love everyone, too. I went to tell my friends whom I had met. Come and see, I told them. This is the promised one from God, God's own son. He will show us God's love and lead us to him.

Since then I've come to know that Jesus is God's son. He gave his life for us on the cross. That's how much he loves us. He takes away our sin so that we can be filled with his love and love everyone. Maybe you can do that, too. Remember, **\*JESUS IS EVERYONES FRIEND – Love everyone too.**

**'Bye, boys and girls.**

Presenter closes in prayer. Children repeat each phrase.

**Dear God, (repeat)**  
**Thank you for sending Jesus. (repeat)**  
**He was the Samaritan's friend. (repeat)**  
**He is everyone's friend. (repeat)**  
**We can love everyone too. (repeat)**  
**Thank you, thank you, thank you. (repeat)**  
**Amen. (repeat)**



## Action Zones: (20-30 minutes)

**Purpose:** Children move at their leisure to the activities according to their interest. Adults are assigned to oversee each of the zones watching for safety, assisting any activity, and helping the children connect to the lesson of the day. All zones are introduced at the beginning of Zone Time. Some suggested zones are included below. It is usually best to have all children go to the Snack Zone first. Sing a blessing song or say a snack prayer together before dismissing to the zones.

During the Zone Time, children may arrive from mid-service dismissal if this is an option at your church. Be prepared to welcome the children and invite them to choose a zone.

**Snack Zone:** Round Tostitos chips and ranch dip. The chips represent the bucket and the dip represents the well.

*Option:* Blue Jell-O to represent the well.

**Drama Zone:** Have large trash can with brown construction paper or white butcher paper with bricks drawn on for the well. Have a Jesus costume and a woman costume available for reenactment.

**Messy Zone:** You will need a large bowl and a ladle. Have the children ladle out water when they get thirsty

*Option:* A very clean pail and paper cups. Children may need assistance.

**Craft Zone:** Use Styrofoam cups to decorate and make a well using brown paint or markers. Another way to do this is for the adult to paint brown Temper paint on bubble wrap and let the children roll their Styrofoam cups on it. Fill their wells with blue strips of paper to give to friends. These strips of paper can have a sticker placed on them saying, "Jesus is everyone's friend." Make these in a label size convenient to you.

**Play Zone:** Use boxes or blocks to make a well.

*Option:* Use water sprayers or squirt guns to squirt water, knocking down Styrofoam cups sitting on plastic tablecloth. Talk about living water.

**Quiet Reading Zone:** Use *the Big Book* from Group Publishing: *Jesus Is With Us*. If possible, take the reading group to where a fountain or water is.

**Music Zone:** *Jesus Loves The Little Children*, and *Jesus Loves Me*.

**Safety and Security:** Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.



## Closing Worship: (20 minutes)

**Purpose:** As you empty the zones and clean up, begin the music so the children can start wandering over.

### Worship Songs:

Choose one or two songs and list them here.

### Bible Application with Puppet Presentation:

**Purpose:** The puppet demonstrates the need that will be met in today's lesson. The scripts are not written verbatim, but give a story line in which the group leader can interact with the puppet.

Judy needs help from the presenter and kids. A new neighbor has moved next door to her. They have a child her own age. But she is "different." (Choose the difference according to your group and accord to your preference. The difference could be taller, different race, in a wheelchair, etc.) Judy is not sure if she should get to know the new person. The presenter asks the children for advise. The children can teach the puppet the words for today: **\*JESUS IS EVERYONES FRIEND – Love everyone too.** So as Judy learns this, she asks where do you find this in the Bible? The children can help Judy learn the Bible event of the Samaritan woman at the well. Showing pages from the Big Book or pictures from Story Bible will be helpful in telling the story to Judy.

### Prayer Time:

**Purpose:** Allow children to contribute their own prayers. This will teach them to turn to God in both good times and in times of trouble. End with the Lord's Prayer.

### "Children Pray" Options: (select one from the options below)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Prayer Train Option:** Children line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone and speak their brief prayers of thanksgiving.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Prayer Chair:** Children stand in a circle around one child sitting on a chair in the middle. All children in the circle will lay a hand on the child sitting in the chair as they say a prayer together.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and taps children on the head to stand and speak their prayer.

**Lord's Prayer:** Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire Prayer along with you.

## Blessing:

May God, who is all around you,  
pour his love upon you.

*(Beginning at the bottom of the circle, slowly make large circle with your hands. Finish by bringing your hands down and wiggling your fingers to resemble rain.)*

And Jesus, his life a sacrifice,  
walk right there beside you.

*(Slowly make a large sign of the cross. Then move your hands out to the sides.)*

And may God's Holy Spirit,  
the one who lives inside you,

*(Cross hands over your heart.)*

keep you strong,  
comfort, lead and guide you!

*(Move to a "strong man" position. Then cross your arms with your hands on corresponding upper arms to communicate comfort. Bring one hand forward with "lead" and the other with "guide" to complete the blessing.)*

## Song of Sending:

*Choose one song and list it here.*



## Closing Zones:

**Purpose:** Children go to an activity zone such as, the coloring zone, quiet reading zone, and children's Christian music video zone, as they wait for their parents.

# Supplies:

## *Welcome Zone:*

- video: Veggie Tales: Are You My Neighbor?—order from:  
<http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/1571322728/002-4057945-1179217?v=glance> or from <http://www.veggiegear.com/areyoumyneig.html>
- blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons

## *Opening Worship:*

- woman at the well costume
- simulated well and/or bucket for water

## *Action Zones:*

### *Snack:*

- round Tostitos
- Ranch dip
- option: blue Jell-O

### *Craft:*

- styrofoam cups
- brown paint or markers
- blue paper strips with label, “Jesus is everyone’s friend”

### *Play:*

- boxes or blocks to make well
- option: water sprayers and plastic tablecloth

### *Drama:*

- large trash can
- white or brown paper
- Jesus and the woman costumes:

### *Quiet Reading:*

- *Jesus is with Us*, Big Book—order from Group Publishing  
[http://store.grouppublishing.com/OA\\_HTML/ibeCCtpltmDspRte.jsp?section=10843&item=2805](http://store.grouppublishing.com/OA_HTML/ibeCCtpltmDspRte.jsp?section=10843&item=2805)

### *Music:*

- *Jesus Loves the Little Children*--  
<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/html/j/e/jesloves.htm>,
- *Jesus Loves Me* <http://www.cyberhymnal.org/html/j/e/jesuslme.htm>

### *Messy:*

- large bowl
- ladle

## *Closing Worship:*

- Judy, the puppet
- Big Book – *Jesus is My Friend*

## *Closing Zones:*

- colored pencils
- paper
- basket of books