

## Applying It In My Life .....Group time - 25 minutes

1. What present day situations might arouse the same racial, religious and sexual prejudices as the Samaritan woman? Why do we hesitate to go against such barriers to share the gospel? How does God want us to be involved in finishing the task of making disciples of all the nations?
2. Why do people try to generate religious controversies with us? What are their motives? Where do you see people utilizing the woman's tactic of bringing up religious questions to debate doctrines or church practices to deflect the attention away from their own hearts? How should we respond when this occurs?
3. How do we typically respond when we meet someone in deep need or sin? How do you desire to respond? What gets in the way of our responding in love? How does the fact that we are all sinners in need of a Savior, who are created, loved, and pursued by our Lord help to overcome our prejudicial tendencies?

**REACH NEPAL** – This week South Shores launched an effort to reach two unengaged people groups in Nepal. How will you be a part of this effort as an individual, family or *Growth Group*? Please join your church family in praying for and giving generously to reach these hidden people groups.

## Prayer Time .....Group time - 15 minutes

Praise God that He reaches out to the unengaged and the rejected. Thank God for loving all the “peoples” of the world. Ask God to give you a heart of compassion for those who are lost and rejected.

Finish your prayer time by praying for the needs of those in your *Growth Group*. Take a few minutes to share prayer requests. Ask someone in the group to record your prayers so you that in future weeks you can see where God is answering your prayers.

## BELIEVE *Reaching the Unengaged*

### The Samaritan Woman

John 4:3-9

- The Samaritans lived right BETWEEN Judea and Galilee.
- The Jews had a strong rivalry and HATRED for the Samaritans.

### Jesus Reaching the Unengaged

John 4:13-14

- Jesus reached out to people who had been REJECTED.

### Reaching the Unengaged Today

John 4:16-19, 28-30

#### *Three Necessities for Evangelism*

- Our testimony
  - The words of Jesus
  - Going to the Unengaged
- These unengaged groups are found in REMOTE areas.
  - We want to help FINISH the task of making disciples of all nations.

## GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

Week of February 16-21, 2015

### Getting Started .....Group time - 15 minutes

1. As you were growing up were there people of certain social classes or ethnicities that you or your family did not associate with? Why? What makes us uncomfortable when we meet people from vastly different cultures and religious backgrounds? How have those feelings changed since you became a follower of Christ?

FOR GROWTH GROUP TIME

### Getting Into God's Word .....Group time - 35 minutes

**Read John 4:1-30, 39-42** (In preparation to answer questions)

1. Who were the Samaritans and why was there tension between the Samaritans and the Jews? Why did the Samaritans worship in a different place than the Jews? What was Jesus' view of their worship?

2. What request did Jesus make of the Samaritan woman? Why did Jesus' request seem strange and out of place to the woman? What were the barriers that Jesus set aside when He engaged the Samaritan woman in conversation?

3. What does this event express about Jesus' attitude towards people of other races? Read Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:8. What do these passages indicate to us about Jesus' desire that people of all races and nations have the opportunity to hear the gospel and be saved?

4. What offer did Jesus make to the Samaritan woman? What objections did the woman raise in response? What results would come from drinking the "living water?" What does the "gift of God" and the "living water" refer to? What does receiving this gift result in for those who are lost and without a savior?

5. What caused so many in Sychar to respond to Jesus' message? What did the woman say to the people of the city, and what did the people do as a result? Why did the testimony of one, discredited woman make such a huge impact on so many? What did Jesus tell the disciples, and what did they think He was referring to?