

THE WOMAN OF SAMARIA

New Testament Lesson #26

Jesus and his disciples passed through Samaria (sa-MAY-ri-a) on their way to Galilee. They stopped at Jacob's well, and while Jesus sat down to rest, his disciples went into the town to buy food.

A Samaritan woman came to the well, and Jesus asked her for some water to drink. She was shocked when he spoke to her because normally Jews had no contact with Samaritans. He responded by telling her about the "living water" which she could ask him for, had she any idea who he was.

She did not understand Jesus and asked several questions. He explained that everyone who drank the well water would be thirsty again, but "whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst." The woman then asked Jesus for water, and he told the woman to go and get her husband. She responded that she wasn't married. Jesus told her, "You are right." He added that she'd had five husbands but was now living with a man who was not her husband. She decided that Jesus must be a prophet.

She asked him where God could be acceptably worshiped. Jesus explained to her that in the future, true worshipers would worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The location of worship would not be important.

She told Jesus that she knew the Messiah was coming and that he would reveal the truth about all things to them. He told her he was the Messiah.

When the disciples returned with food, the woman left her water jar and ran back to the city to tell the people what had happened and that this man must be the Christ (the Messiah).

Many people of the town became believers because of the woman's testimony, and they persuaded Jesus to stay with them for two days.

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- "Christ" is the Greek form of the Hebrew word "Messiah." Both titles mean "the anointed one."
- Though Jesus came to preach first to Jews (see Matthew 15:21-28), he demonstrated early in his ministry that the gospel message was for all people.
- Samaritans were not Jews but descendants of the people forcibly transplanted to this region (by Assyria) who intermarried with the remaining Israelites. Samaritans had been taught some aspects of Israel's religion, but it became mixed with the religions of their original countries as well (see 2 Kings 17:24-41 for historical background on the Samaritans and their religion). Because of this, they were despised by the Jews

The Woman of Samaria

- I. Jesus stopped at a well to rest.
 - A. A woman stopped, and Jesus asked her for water.
 - B. She was shocked that he spoke because she was a Samaritan.
 - C. He told her about living water, but she didn't understand.
- II. Jesus and the woman talked.
 - A. She decided Jesus was a prophet and asked where God could be worshiped.
 - B. Jesus said the Lord must be worshiped in sincerity and truth.
 - C. The woman said she knew the Messiah was coming.
 - D. Jesus said he was the Messiah.
- III. The woman told many people she had met the Christ.
 - A. Others believed in Jesus because of her testimony.
 - B. Jesus stayed in the town for two days.

ANSWER KEY:

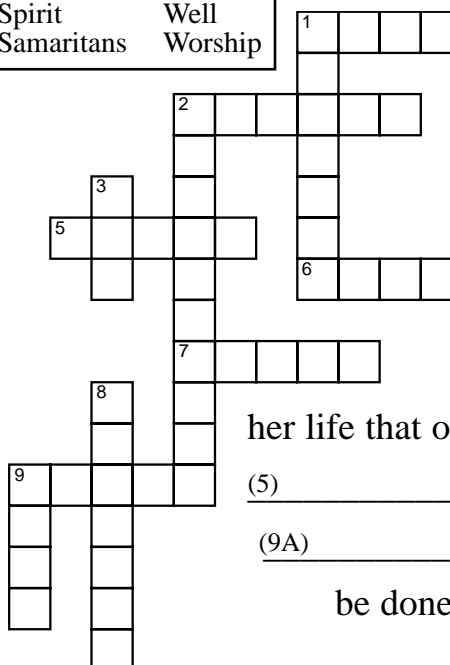
woman, well, Jesus, Jesus, woman, water, woman, Jesus, Jews, Samaritans, Jesus, woman, water, water, God, Jesus, woman, God, Jesus, woman, worship, God, Jesus, place, spirit, truth, Jesus, woman, Messiah "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" The people came and listened. Jesus stayed 2 days. Many became believers!

Fit these words into the puzzle. Then transfer them to the lines in the story.

- | | |
|------------|---------|
| Messiah | Water |
| Truth | Jews |
| Jesus | God |
| Place | Woman |
| Spirit | Well |
| Samaritans | Worship |

Jesus and His disciples were on their way from Judea to Galilee. They passed through Samaria, stopping at Jacob's well. Jesus sat down to rest while the disciples went to town to buy food.

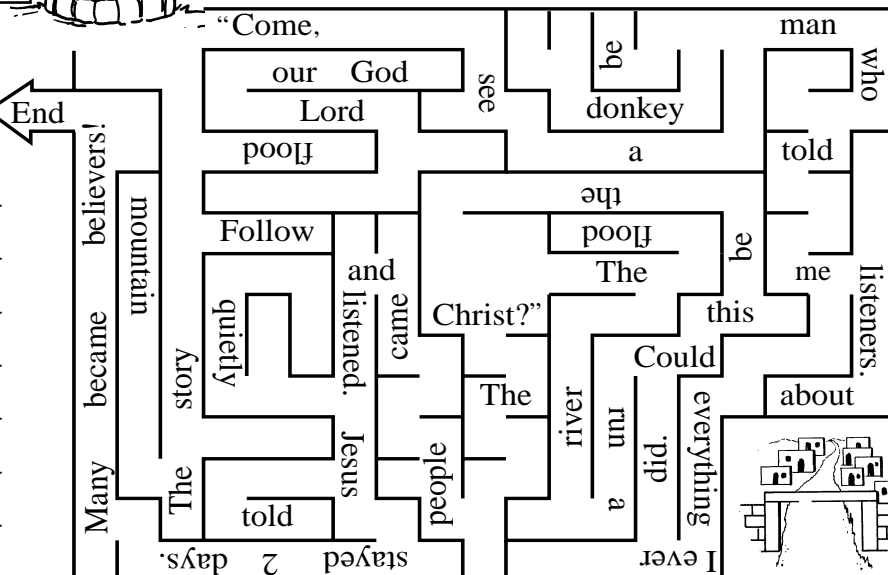
A Samaritan (5) _____ came to the (1A) _____ while (9A) _____ was there. (9A) _____ asked the (5) _____ for some (4) _____ to drink. The (5) _____ was surprised. (9A) _____ spoke to her. (9D) _____ did not usually speak to (2D) _____. (9A) _____ spoke to the (5) _____ about "living (4) _____." He told her that "living (4) _____" comes from (3) _____ and you never thirst again – "Your life will be satisfied." (9A) _____ also told the (5) _____ things about her life that only could have come from (3) _____. (9A) _____ and the (5) _____ talked about acceptable (1D) _____ of (3) _____. (9A) _____ told her that the (6) _____ did not matter – but it must be done in (2A) _____ and (7) _____. (9A) _____ told the (5) _____ He was the (8) _____.



Find your way through the maze, writing words from the correct path.



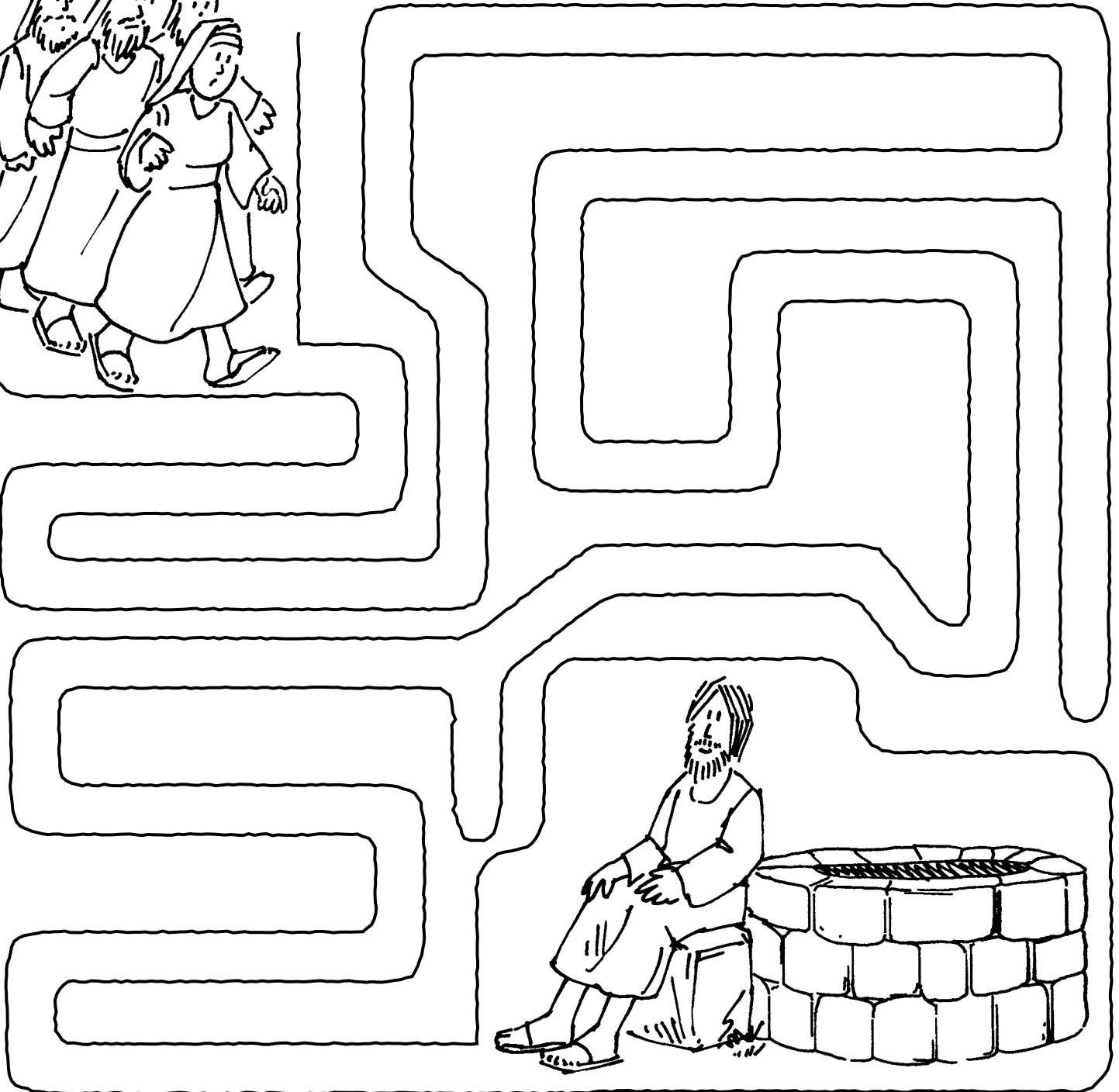
The Samaritan woman ran back to the city to tell the people what happened. What did the woman say? What happened?



Name _____

A woman in Samaria talked to Jesus and then brought her neighbors to Him so He could teach them, too.

Follow the path and lead the people to Jesus.



Name _____