# GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

March 9, 2025

COME ALIVE Call to the Abundant Life John 4:1-12 Pastor Matt Manning <u>Matt.Manning@crossroadsabc.com</u>



## NOTES

Pastor Matt reminded us that Jesus is the living water from whom we can draw eternal refreshment.

#### **MY STORY**

Think of a time when you felt completely drained—physically, emotionally, or spiritually. What did you do to find relief or refreshment? Did it truly satisfy you, or did you find yourself needing more? What steps did you take to avoid it from happening again?

#### WHAT DOES GOD WANT US TO HEAR?

A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." (John 4:7-10)

There was a deep social and religious divide between Jews and Samaritans at the time that Jesus spoke with the Samaritan woman. Not only were Jewish men not supposed to speak with women they didn't know, Jews in general were not to talk to Samaritans at all. Some even consider this likely-outcast to be the first evangelist. We learn later in John that after speaking with Jesus, she runs to town and tells everyone about Him.

Knowing what we know about the Samaritan woman and Jesus and the cultural tensions between both cultures at the time, why do you think Jesus chose to speak to her and to tell her that He was the Messiah?

Looking back at your notes from this week's message, was there anything you heard for the first time, stuck with you, challenged or confused you?

What is the one important thing you will take away from this weekend's message or our community group discussion? Is there any challenge, difficulty or praise that you would like to share with the group for prayer?



Watch on Demand crossroadsabc.com/ messages What about Jesus attracted the Samaritan woman to ask about the living water? What do you think was happening in her life and in her heart?

Who is the living water and who is invited to drink from it? What is the requirement?

In John 4:15: The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

Do you think the Samaritan woman understood what God was talking about when He mentions the living water? Who does the living water symbolize?

#### WHAT DOES GOD WANT US TO DO?

Pastor Matt asked, How much salt does it take to quench your thirst?

Where was he going with this attention-grabbing question? What did the "salt" represent?

What does spiritual thirst feel like? How can we drink from the living water and not thirst anymore? How does drinking from the living water lead to an abundant life?

What does God want us to do? Flowing out of our reading and interpretation, what action does this passage or the Spirit's leading, call us to?

### WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO DO?

Think of the Samaritan woman and her life before she knew Jesus and her reaction to when she met him. She ran to tell everyone about Him, even though he didn't tell her to. Why do you think that was and what changed in her? Think about your life. How has the living water that Jesus provides satisfied you in ways that nothing else can?

What does it mean to you personally to live abundantly in Jesus? Are you still thirsty for the Holy Spirit and how do you quench your thirst?

*What does God want ME to do?* What is the personal application and action step God is calling you, personally, toward?

