

## John 4

*Lessons on evangelism from the life & lips of Christ*  
**WHAT MAKES A GREAT EVANGELIST???**...

### Intro

#### Misconception –

We often consider people like D.L Moody, Billy Sunday, Billy Graham and/or TV Evangelists (i.e the sincere/decent ones) as great evangelists where in fact he is/they are more **fiery/effective** than great...

We often consider street preachers/open air campaigners (i.e the non crazy ones) as great evangelists where in fact he is/they are more **faithful /courageous** than great ...

#### **So WHAT MAKES A GREAT EVANGELIST??**

*I believe right here in John 4 we have The Greatest Evangelist at work!!!!*

#### **Question- WHAT MAKES A GREAT EVANGELIST?**

**Answer- 'THE MORE STRANGERS YOU TALK TO & TELL THEM ABOUT THE SAVIOUR, THE GREATER THE EVANGELIST YOU ARE...'**

Let's now turn to John 4 and learn 3 simple approaches from the greatest evangelist ever walked this earth

### **1. He initiated not intimidated**

**Vs 7 -There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink**

#### **A. THE MESSAGE**

Vs 10 sums all up...Here is what it is all about ...The Focus is .'THE GIFT OF GRACE NOT HER GENDER, MORALS or RACE '

**Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knowest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.**

#### **Life Principle**

A great evangelist is any person who is passionate to tell every stranger he/she comes across that ' For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord '(Rom 6:23)...He/she does that because he/she believes , '**if they only knew**', they may/would ask Jesus to give them eternal life and Jesus **will** save them ...

#### **B. THE MANNER**

Jesus used a dialogue not a monologue ...He was patient rather than passive ...He was concerned about the heart's trust more tahn the human tendency

Please also notice how He:

- Sat down not Stood over
- Lifted up not Looked down
- Asked not Demanded
- Discussed not Debated

- Answered not Argued
- Responded not Reacted

## 2. He instructed not insulted

### A. The woman of Samaria

She came to draw from the well so she can take care of her thirsty lips.. However underneath that hardened surface and aging physical exterior, there was a deeper thirst for life and love..... The deep well of her precious soul had dried up long ago ...

She so longs to be loved for *the person she is* and not for *the pleasure she brings* ...

She tried to quench that deep thirst by giving away her body and was tired of being treated like a piece of meat and a mere product with a limited shelf life – discarded once expired.

Like the sad and silly characters of Sex in the city, this woman of ‘some area’ was a wild one, with a devil may care attitude, sought and found those who would help her make it thru the night. Her misdirected passion led her in and out of superficial relationships, looking for love in all the wrong places .Like a desperate housewife she was willing to trade her permanent emptiness for temporary happiness, She did that in sleeping around with a number of deceptive men in a numerous dysfunctional relationships ( we know of at least 5) after all what’s love got to do with it

### B. The Way of the Saviour

Though this woman of Samaria was quite open to be abused and could be easily insulted, yet we find how our wonderful Saviour was compassionate without compromising .His way was to instruct her without insulting her, despite the fact that she was a:

#### 1. *Socially Outcast (Half Breed & hated by the Jews)*

- ✚ Woman - See vs 27 Disciples marvelled (cp with Jn 3:7 )
- ✚ of Samaria – See vs 9 ...By her own admission she was surprised –Culture
- ✚ Divorced 5 times...
- ✚ Living with her boyfriend..
- ✚ Financially broke...
- ✚ Unpopular. She came to draw water in the midday sun when there was no one around

#### 2. *Spiritually Confused*

Own religious system (20 -24)

Coming of Messiah (25)

- ✚ Vs 9
- ✚ Vs 12
- ✚ Vs 15
- ✚ Vs 20

#### Life Principle

A great evangelist does not reject or turn away the socially outcast nor debates or puts down the spiritually confused

## 3. He presented not pressured

He was patient...He took the necessary time.....He build a relationship...

Jesus didn’t beat around the bush with her, neither did he beat her on the head.

***He was sure of her listening ear once he secured her trusting heart!!!***

### A, He let her know

Jesus first presented the eternal living water before he pointed out her earthly life style

The more Jesus spoke to her heart & mind, she more she realised who he was ...

1. A Jew, Vs 9
2. Greater than Jacob Vs 12
3. A prophet Vs 19
4. A Messiah Vs 22, 29

Keep on revealing Christ thru His Word / your life until they recognise Him  
When they recognise Him... You'll know , because there will be a change in their life

### **B, She left her waterpot**

✚ Vs 28....The woman **then** left her waterpot

The waterpot was the symbol of her life

Please note - Nothing has really changed on the outside of her world (Hot, Weary, Thirsty etc..) But Everything has truly changed on the inside!!!

**Set free from her guilt , she left her waterpot and set out to set others free from theirs...**

After she opened the door of heart to Jesus,, she left her waterpot and went on to open the door of Samaria for Him...

- ✚ Vs 28 – and SAITH to the men
- ✚ VS 39 – ....THE SAYING OF THE WOMAN...
- ✚ VS 42 -..THY SAYING...

Initially her talk was controlling and her theology was confused , but after just one meeting with Jesus ,her trust was real and her testimony was powerful

God took her awful matrimony and turned into an awesome testimony

### **Life Principle**

What you did yesterday, the right, the wrong & the sinful; the good, the bad & the ugly, matters much ...  
However - what you do about it today matters MORE!!!

### **In Closing**

Jesus talked to her ...He treated with dignity and respect (he called Woman the same that he called his own mother)...He took time to explain things to her...He told All ever she did ...he Taught her..

*Question-* WHAT MAKES A GREAT EVANGELIST?

*Answer-* 'THE MORE STRANGERS YOU TALK TO & TELL THEM ABOUT THE SAVIOUR,  
THE GREATER THE EVANGELIST YOU ARE...'

1. TRUST GOD – Be Prayerful
2. TAKE TIME - Be Patient
3. TELL THE TRUTH - Be Proactive

With the Love of Christ

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