IF YOU ONLY KNEW

I. THE GIFT OF GOD

GOD TENDS TO OVERFLOW
Anyone who drinks the water I give will never thirst—not ever. The water I give will be an artesian spring within, gushing fountains of endless life.
Jn.4:14 The Message

This is one of the classic stories in the ministry of Jesus. He is talking to a disillusioned Samaritan woman, a woman disillusioned with life because of a long series of disappointments. Like women from every generation, she thought her happiness in life was somehow connected to finding the right guy, her knight in shining armor would come and make all her dreams come true. She had been through five marriages and her current man was not her husband, she had been disillusioned for a very long time. When Jesus began to minister to her she immediately went into her religious defense syndrome, “this is the way we do it in Samaria”, but it seems her religion had let her down along with all of the men from her past. Jesus words were different from any words she had heard before, somehow these words were full of life, and, against her better judgement, she found herself listening to the words of this compelling stranger from Galilee. Instead of religion He was talking about satisfaction and joy and something He called Living Water, somehow she felt strangely attracted to this man. He told her she could drink from these Living Waters and they would overflow in her life. Jonathan Edwards often spoke of the overflowing nature of God, here is something He said about God’s tendency to overflow.

“God is absolutely independent of us; that we have nothing of our own, no stock from whence we can give to God; and that no part of his happiness originates from man. From what has been said, it appears, that the pleasure God hath in those things which have been mentioned, is rather a pleasure in diffusing and communicating to, than in receiving from, the creature. Surely, it is no argument of indigence in God that he is inclined to communicate of his infinite fullness. It is no argument of the emptiness or deficiency of a fountain, that it is inclined to overflow.”

I love that, God has a tendency to overflow. The heavens cannot contain Him, surely we cannot benefit Him or add to Him by anything we have to offer, He loves to help us by revealing His goodness to us, as we receive from Him then, and then only, is our life complete. The woman from Samaria found a different water at the fountain that day, she found the only man that could make a real difference in her life, you never know, maybe this is the day you will be captured by this overflowing nature of God.
1. **JESUS WAS AFTER THE ONE - THE WOMAN AT THE WELL**

Jn.4:4 - *And He had to pass through Samaria.*

2. **IF YOU ONLY KNEW THE GIFT**

Jn.4:10 - Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.”

A. Waters of cleansing - from our past, present, and future sins

B. Waters of Renewal - He makes all things new in our life

C. Waters of transformation - He makes us different people

D. Waters of healing

Ezekiel.47:9 - And it shall be that every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live. There will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes.
II. IF YOU ONLY KNEW WHO I AM

1. THE RADIANCE OF THE FATHER’S GLORY

Heb.1:3 - And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

2. THE WORD WHO BECAME FLESH

Jn.1:14 - And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

3. THE HEAVENLY HIGH PRIEST

Heb.8:1,2 - Now the main point in what has been said is this: we have such a high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a minister in the sanctuary and in the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man.
4. THE MINISTER OF THE SANCTUARY - BAPTIZER IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Heb.8:1,2 - Now the main point in what has been said is this: we have such a high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a minister in the sanctuary and in the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man

5. SOVEREIGN KING OF KINGS - THE RULER WHO ORCHESTRATES ALL THINGS

Heb.1:3 - And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

III. DRINK LIVING WATER

Jn.4:13,14 - Jesus answered and said to her, “Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”

HOW DO YOU RECEIVE IT? RETURN TO THE ANCIENT WELLS

Jer.2:13 - For My people have committed two evils: 1) they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, 2) to hew for themselves cisterns, broken cisterns that can hold no water.
IV. GOD IS SEEKING TRUE WORSHIPPERS

Jn.4:22-24 - “You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. “But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. “God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

You know the value of a human soul by what they worship

V. SAVIOR OF THE WORLD - THE UNLIKELY EVANGELIST

Jn.4:42 - Then they said to the woman, “Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world.

This woman’s story was well known in Samaria. She was God’s choice to display His glory

THE UNLIKELY EVANGELIST

Jn.4:39 - And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, “He told me all that I ever did.

The woman at the well in Samaria seemed the least likely candidate to be an evangelist. She was more likely to die an early, soon to be forgotten death. She was far too well known amongst the men of that village, she was especially hated by the women. Who knows the damage this home-wrecker had inflicted on her home town. A preacher, an evangelist, unthinkable. That all changed the day Jesus stopped for a drink at Jacob’s well. All it took was one conversation and this woman’s life was unalterably changed. Jesus had operated on her soul, the results were undeniable. Rather than hiding in the shadows, this woman of Samaria began to share the story of her life change to whoever would listen. She had drunk the living water Jesus had spoken of, the results were undeniable. Here are some thoughts from Barclay on this unlikely evangelist.
“There was introduction. The Samaritans were introduced to Christ by the woman.... It is at once our precious privilege and our terrible responsibility to bring men to Christ. The introduction cannot be made unless there is a man to make it. Further, that introduction is made on the strength of personal witness. The cry of the Samaritan woman was: ‘Look what he has done for me and to me.’ It was not to a theory that she called her neighbors; it was to a dynamic and changing power. The church can expand until the kingdoms of the world become the kingdoms of the Lord only when men and women themselves experience the power of Christ, and then transmit that experience to others.”

So maybe she was the unlikely evangelist to people who knew her, she was the perfect choice for the Lord. Why would He trust His most precious message to unscrupulous people like this former adulteress? Surely He could have found a better choice. No this was His choice because He was all about His glory, imperfect vessels carrying the most precious substance, this is how God glorifies His grace. Those who knew the woman knew her imperfections, now they saw the power of the gospel displayed in her life. Maybe you will be the next unlikely evangelist.