

**Jesus** and his disciples had been walking for days in the hot sun. They were on their way to Galilee. **Jesus** and his disciples were hot, tired, and very thirsty. Finally **Jesus** and his disciples came to Jacob's Well just outside the village of Sychar. While **Jesus** sat down next to the well to rest, his disciples went into the village to buy some food.

Soon a Samaritan **woman** came to get some water from the well and **Jesus** asked her for a drink. She was very surprised that **Jesus** had asked her for a drink. The **woman** was a Samaritan and Jews did not speak to Samaritans. Most Jews hated Samaritans. They treated the Samaritans as if they were dirty and not as good as themselves. But **Jesus** had spoken to her.

The Samaritan **woman** asked **Jesus** why he had spoken to her? **Jesus** told her that if she knew who he really was, that she would be asking him for much more important things than water. She didn't understand what **Jesus** was talking about. He said, "I can give you living water that gives eternal life"

**Jesus** began to tell the **woman** things about her that not many people knew. **Jesus** told her about how she had been married five times. The Samaritan **woman** asked him if he was a prophet. She had many questions for **Jesus** and **Jesus** patiently answered them. **Jesus** told her that it does not matter where a person worships or what they call themselves, Jew or Samaritan. It only matters how they worship. **Jesus** told her that her worship must be spiritual and real. **Jesus** made this **woman** feel special and important. He didn't put her down for being a Samaritan and not understanding everything. He didn't look down on her for the mistakes she had made in her past.

The **woman** told him that she knew the Messiah was coming and that when he came he would explain everything. Then **Jesus** told her, "I am the Messiah." She knew that it must be true. She immediately left to tell everyone back in her village that the Messiah had come and his name was **Jesus**.

**If time, do the story, water pouring again!**

Talk about how Jesus spoke to a woman - very unusual, a Samaritan - very unusual. Jesus knew all about her but didn't judge her. It is the first time in the gospel when he tells people who aren't Jews that God's love and forgiveness are for them too. God knows exactly what we are like, stuff maybe no-one else knows but he still loves us. He wants us to let Him be in charge of our lives, let Him be the reason we do things, Him be our guide or inspiration to living a better life, not judging others but trying to love them!

You might want to use the water drop prayers after your talk.