

Bible Discovery

Hold up the Bible. **Today our Bible story tells how Jesus became friends with someone. She was different from him, but that's okay. Jesus loves everyone!**

(Thank you, Jesus!)

- Get comfy and sit in knee-to-knee circles with Connect Crews.
- ❓ **Tell how you're different from a brother, sister, or friend.** Invite Crew Guides to share first.
- Crew Guides give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.

Jesus loves everyone. *(Thank you, Jesus!)* He made us all different and special. Sometimes people don't like other people to be different from them, and that was true when Jesus was on earth, too. The Bible says one day Jesus was walking a long way and he stopped to get a drink at a well. A well is a place where you go to get water. Show me how you drink water after a long walk. **Do this with me!**

- Pat legs as if walking a long way.
- Make slurping sounds and drinking motions.

Walking a long way in the sun can make us thirsty! But Jesus couldn't get a drink from the well yet; he needed a bucket to lower down into the well to scoop up some water.



Read aloud John 4:7.

A woman came to the well with a bucket, and Jesus asked her for some water. Together, let's pretend to get Jesus some water from a well.

- Pretend to lower a bucket.
- Pretend to pull a heavy bucket full of water back up.
- Show the Bible Story poster.



Read aloud John 4:9.

The woman was so surprised that Jesus talked to her. They lived in different places and did different things. But Jesus loves everyone, *(Thank you, Jesus!)* including the woman at the well.

Jesus told the woman, "I can give you living water." Pause. Hmm, this was very confusing for the woman! She said, "How are you going to get this living water without a rope or a bucket?"

- ❓ **Tell about a time you were confused.** Briefly share a story from your own life.
- Invite a few responses from the whole group.

Supplies

- Bible
- "Jesus Talks With a Samaritan Woman" Bible Story poster
- pitchers filled with drinking water
- cups (1 per child)

We call helpers Crew Guides. If you lead a small class, you can be the Crew Guide. Simply gather kids in a cozy circle around you. If you have helpers, form smaller groups so each child can be known—and so kids can befriend your helpers, too!



Read the verse from the Bible.

You're showing kids that God's Word is special. Don't worry—we've kept the verses short for young attention spans.

Welcome a few responses. Be sure to summarize what kids say so everyone can hear.

Jesus wasn't trying to be confusing. He was using something we can see—water—to help us understand something we can't see—his love. He said if we drink the "living water" we'll never, ever be thirsty again. It'll be the best water we ever tasted! Jesus meant that if we're friends with him, he'll fill us with love and give us all we need to live. Do what I do!

- Jesus gives us love when we feel sad. (*cross hands over your chest*)
- Jesus gives us joy. (*jump up and down*)
- Jesus is our friend; he's always with us. (*high-five a friend close to you*)
- Repeat those actions several times, speeding up each time through.

Whew! That made me thirsty. Let's all get a drink! I'll pour water from this pitcher. We can pretend it's a bucket like the woman used.

- Have Crew Guides hold cups while you pour from the pitcher; then have them distribute cups to their Crews.
- Invite everyone to enjoy a drink of water.

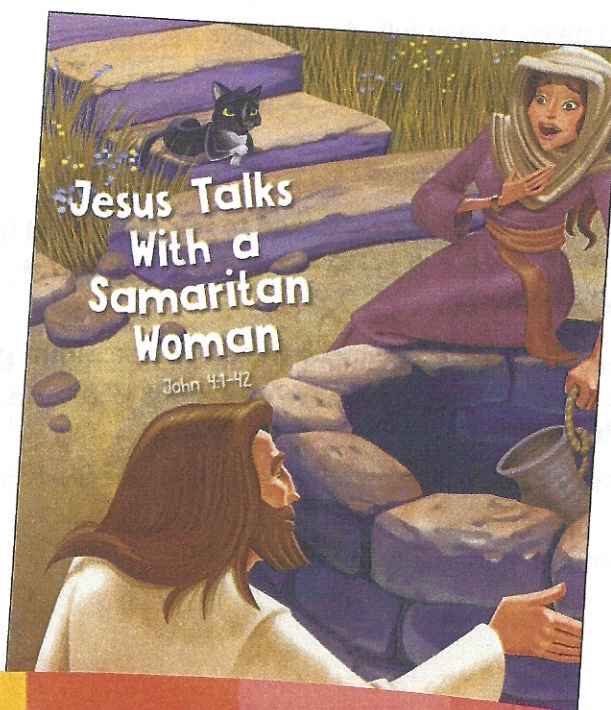
Jesus loves everyone. (*Thank you, Jesus!*) He loves people who live in different places and do different things. Meeting Jesus at the well changed the woman's life! She realized that Jesus was special because Jesus is God's Son! She was so excited she ran to tell all her friends about Jesus!

- Run in place excitedly.
- Circle up knee to knee with Connect Crews.
- **When have you run to tell something exciting?** Invite Crew Guides to share first.
- Crew Guides give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.

The woman ran to tell her friends, and they were all excited, too! They were different from Jesus' other friends, but they were some of the first people to believe Jesus was God's special Son. God sent Jesus to earth to show his love for us. **Jesus loves everyone.** (*Thank you, Jesus!*) He loves us, too!



Now's a great time for Apply-It Options. Choose one or more that fit your time frame to support today's Bible discoveries before the closing Goodbye Circle.



Apply-It Options

Choose one—or all—of these activities to support kids' learning after Bible Discovery.

Game

Play a version of tag where kids join the Tagger when tagged. After they're tagged, they'll hold hands with the Tagger, and anyone joined to the Tagger can tag others in the game. Play until everyone has joined the Tagger.

Jesus loves everyone! (Thank you, Jesus!) He was happy the woman at the well told all her friends about him. He wants everyone to be his friend!



Food-n-Friendship

Supplies: snack, napkins, hand cleanser, *Music* CD, media player

- Give a napkin to a friend and say, **"Jesus loves everyone!"** (Thank you, Jesus!)

 **"God, You Are So Good"**
(*Music* CD track 3)

- Eat snack together.
- **?** When we pray, we talk with Jesus. Who has something we can talk with Jesus about?
- Pray together.

Jesus loves everyone! (Thank you, Jesus!) We can share about Jesus like the woman did. Pick up someone else's trash and say to that person, "Jesus loves you!"




Coloring Creation

Supplies: "Jesus Talks With a Samaritan Woman" Coloring Creation pages (1 per child), small pieces of blue tissue paper, glue sticks, wet wipes, crayons, *Music* CD, media player

When Jesus went to the well, he was thirsty for water. But he ended up telling a woman about "living water." He offered living water to the woman, and he offers it to us, too, because **Jesus loves everyone.** (Thank you, Jesus!)

- Talk about what Jesus and the woman in the picture are doing.
- Color the picture.
- Glue the blue tissue paper pieces to the well and bucket openings.
- Play music as kids create.

 **"As I Have Loved You" (John 13:34)**
(*Music* CD track 7)

