

When An Event Becomes An Encounter-6



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All Scripture is taken from the NIV Bible unless otherwise noted

The Book of John

- **Who** wrote the book: Early church tradition attributes the fourth Gospel to John—the “beloved” disciple.
- **When** was the book written: John penned this Word around A. D. 8.5.
- **Why** was the book written: His purpose for sharing this gospel was assurance that if readers settle their faith on the Word and the word of Jesus Christ, they will have, not just life but abundant life in His name.



Text Introduction

- This text introduces the Holy Spirit as the key to a dynamic relationship and devotion. The suggestion is the Holy Spirit will maximize your prayer life and worship and He will minister to the believer while connecting the believer to Jesus Christ Himself.



Focus Text

John 4:24 (NIV)

*God is spirit, and his
worshippers must
worship in spirit and
in truth."*

Introduction

- I want to step into this Word by suggesting that if you are granted life and never worship God, you miss the chief purpose of life and will never be fulfilled. The truth of the matter is... you and I were created to worship God.
- Every thing who has been created in some form or fashion worship God. . . . To worship God in your living . . . is to declare the “Is-ness” of God.
- *Can we really talk?* You see, I have discovered that worship is not based on religion. It is based on a relationship because you can have good religion and never worship God.



Review

- Stop for a moment and answer the following questions:
 - What is your water pot?
 - What did you come to the well thirsty for?
 - Did you come for peace, stability, freedom, joy, deliverance, focus...why are you at the well?
- How many of us live a life of self-hate and self-hurt? We are hurting ourselves trying to avoid others.
- The water pot is the symbolic representation of the Samaritan woman's insecurity. It is the crutch she leans on because of her history. The bible said she left her water pot. She came to get water because she needs water to make it . . . but because she left without her water pot means she left without getting what she came for. You see, it was a water event supported by her water pot.



Review

- The Samaritan women turn her attention to Jesus and forgot about her water pot. Remember Jesus told her that if she drink this water she would never thirst again? She left the water pot because she no longer needs the water pot because she will never have to fill it up again. Now she will be filled for the rest of her life.
- John 4:13-15: *13 Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” 15 The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.”*
- In light of the fact, that all of us have needs that can only be met by God and none of us want to miss God because we had an event rather than an encounter, allow me some pen time to share with you three things in the text that demonstrate how an event can lead to an encounter:
 - **Get rid of your water pot;**
 - **Talk and touch;**
 - **He loves me in spite of**

2. Touch and Talk

- Jesus stepped to her **not** because he did not know who she was. . . . *Can I squeeze this . . .?* When Jesus began His conversation, I believe she had her own conversation going on in her mind. Jesus stepped to her because He knew her better than she knew herself. It was Him knowing who she was that made her step to him.
- *Watch this.* . . . Jesus had to re-introduce her to herself. . . He told her everything about herself. . . I do not know who I am talking to but sometimes you lose yourself in events that look like church . . . in relationships that support where you have been . . . but not where you are going and when Jesus shows up in the encounter, he has to reintroduce you to the person God made. . . . He has to re-introduce you to *you*.



You Beat Me There...!

- *Can I really push this?* You got to understand that Jesus did not meet you at the event. . . . He beat you there . . . so He would be there to help you when you got there. The text did say He was there when she got there. . . . John 4:6-7 declares . . . that when she got there, Jesus was already there. . . . Is there anybody in here ever had God beat you somewhere . . . so that when you got there, you were able to handle what you had to handle because He beat you there.
- I do not want to push you too hard . . . but is there anybody here who can say, “Lord, I thank you. You knew what I was going through and you got there before I got there. You knew that heathen was going to mess with me on that job; so You got there. . . . You knew the bank was going to try to deny my loan, so you got there before I got there. . . . You knew the accident was around the corner and you beat me there.



Don't Touch Me...!

- Jesus was there when she got there . . . for her water event. Jesus invited her into the conversation but because of her history, Jesus had to make sure at the front end of this conversation. . . . He clarifies that He ain't trying to "holler" . . . *OK* . . . that He is not trying to hit on her . . . and He has to do that because the top two ways you bond is through talk and touch.
- That is why anybody whose has to touch you all the time when they are talking to you . . . **BE CAREFUL** . . . It might not be intentional but it is a bonding method. That is why if you know you are weak. Be strong enough to say, "Don't touch me." If you know you are weak even if they are not trying to "holler," understand that subconsciously, there is something bonding to touch. If they are always laughing and always touching on you . . . be strong enough in your weakness to say, "Don't touch me. I don't mean any harm but don't touch me . . . and don't call me all the time."



Who Is Your Husband?

- So Jesus said, “So, we are on the same page. . . . Let me clarify this up front. . . . Before I speak into your life and you get hooked on me, go get your husband.”
- She said, “I don’t have one.” Jesus said . . . [*Can I throw His response in the Sam Davis remix*], “Go get your husband. . . .” “I don’t have one.” “You don’t say.” *Watch this.*
- *He said, “The truth of the matter is . . . not only do you not have a husband. You got so frustrated with marriage. . . that you decided to downgrade yourself from wife material to a life of a concubine. . . .” OK A live in concubine is the theological phrase for “shack job.”*
- ***Concubine: woman lover living with man: a woman who lives with a man and has a sexual relationship with him but is not married to him.***



<http://www.bing.com/Dictionary/search?q=concubine&FORM=DTPDIA>

Come See A Man...!

- Watch what happens. . . . When she met Jesus, this woman's history is clear. She has been going from event to event. When she met Jesus, the event turned into an encounter. Whenever you have an encounter, not only do you drop some things but you no longer have to avoid people.
- Now, she runs and tells but this time she does not care who she runs into. She no longer has to hide at noon at the well because she had an encounter with a Well sitting on a well.
- Watch the message. . . . She runs with "Come-see-a-man who did not touch me...All He did was talk to me and made me feel good about myself. When I met Him, I changed something. . . . I flipped from feeling to faith. . . . Is there anybody in here who met Jesus and now you got to tell it?"



I Don't Care...!

- You got a serious case of “I-can't-help-it's” because of your encounter. You can tell people:
 - “I don't care what you know about me.
 - I don't care what you say about me.
 - I don't care if you know what I did.
 - I don't even care if you were there when I did it.
 - I don't even care if you are the one I did it with!
- Come, see a man. . . . Who made a wonderful change in my life. I can shout because I met a man who told me all about my struggles. . . . Then, He cleaned my heart . . . changed my life . . . and fixed my spirit!



I'm Not Unfriendly
I Just Don't Care

Why Am I Shouting...?

- When I met Jesus. . .I put my water pot down. I found a Savior!!! That told me all about myself!!! I found a Savior that is **SWEET** I know. . . . He is oh so sweet.
- When people see you shouting. . .You are not shouting over where you are. . .You are shouting over what you left!!! You are shouting over where you have been!!! You are not shouting over what you got!!! You are shouting over what you left!!! They do not know what you left. . .!!! What I left should have killed me!!! What I left should have made me crazy!!! What I left should have made me lose my mind!!! What I left should have knocked me out!!! What I left should have put me in the grave!!! What I left should have made me insane!!! But I am here I survived!!!



Celebrate Survival...!!!

- I wonder if I have any survivors in the house. I wonder if I have about 50 people in the house who can say, 'I survived it When you see me shouting, I am not just shouting about how good God is now, but how good He was then !!! He brought me out!!! He turned my event into an encounter!!! . . . I survived...I survived...I survived!!!!!!!!!!!!!!”

