

The Master Teacher at Jacob's Well

John 4:5-26

Introduction:

- A. Jesus had a five-fold purpose on earth.
 - 1. To do the will of the Father (John 4:34; 6:68).
 - 2. To seek and save the lost – teach. (Luke 19:20)
 - 3. To serve others (Matt. 20:28)
 - 4. To give himself a ransom (Matt. 20:28).
 - 5. To leave us an example (John 13:15; 1 Pet. 2:21).
- B. Jesus left us an example for seeking, saving and serving at Jacob's well.

Discussion:

I. He Recognized the Value of One Soul (v. 7, 8).

- A. Often overlook the need to reach just one person.
 - 1. Forget that one soul is worth more than whole world (Mk. 8:36, 37).
 - 2. Forget Jesus's great lesson to just one soul (cf. Jno. 3:1-3; txt)
 - 3. Forget Phillip left many in Samaria for one man (Acts 8:27-40).
 - 4. Forget potential gain from one soul (v. 39; 41).
- B. Often think in impersonal wholes rather than particular persons.
 - 1. Recognize our duty to preach to "the world" but not our grocery man, mail-man, etc.
 - 2. Recognize our duty to teacher "every creature" but not a creature named Johnson or Smith.
 - 3. Recognize our duty to save "the lost" but not a lost person with a name.

II. He Did His Father's Work Even When Tired (v. 6).

- A. Must we wait until we "feel our best" to do the Lord's work?
 - 1. To attend a service.
 - 2. To teach a neighbor.
 - 3. To encourage a brother.
- B. Most great accomplishments achieved under adverse conditions.

III. He Did Not Pre-judge.

- A. It would have been easy to write this woman off as an unlikely prospect.
 - 1. She was a Samaritan (v. 9)
 - 2. She was very immoral (vv. 17, 18).
 - 3. She already had a religion (v. 20).
- B. It is likely that we sometimes decide in advance who will not accept the gospel.
 - 1. We preach the gospel is for all (Mk. 16:15; Acts 17:30).
 - 2. We act as though the gospel is only for certain people.
 - a. For the moral, not the immoral and vise versa (cf. Acts 10:1-4; 1 Cor. 6:9-11).
 - b. For the religious, not the irreligious and vise versa (cf. Acts 8).
 - c. For the rich, not poor, some races, not others and vise versa (cf. Gal. 3:28)

IV. He Seized the Moment.

- A. He turned ordinary conversation about drinking water into lesson on living water.
- B. He did not wait for a formal arrangement, she was open to teaching then and there.
 - 1. How often do we miss chances work teaching into our daily conversations?
 - 2. How often do we fail to capitalize on people's remarks about religion in general?

Conclusion:

- A. We, like Jesus, must seize every opportunity to teach multitudes (Mk. 2:13) – or just one soul.
- B. We cannot really grow and a church without the kind things that Jesus did at the well.