

## **LIFEGROUP NOTES: JOHN 4:1-42**

*As ever, please use (or discard!) these ideas as is most suitable for your group. Don't feel you have to use everything.*

### **Read John 4:1-42 and discuss:**

1. For centuries Jews had been making detours around Samaria. So what do you think is implied by the statement in v.4 that Jesus "had to go through Samaria"? How might this help our awareness of God's providence in our lives?
2. Why was it surprising that Jesus should talk to this woman (v.9)? Are there any customs, fears or prejudices which govern the sort of people with whom you share the gospel?
3. What do you think Jesus meant by v.10? Compare v.14. What is it that Jesus offers to her, and to all who are truly thirsty?
4. How did Jesus expose her deeper thirst in vv.17-18? How had she been seeking to quench her thirst? With what result?
5. What are the deep thirsts in your own life? Where are you looking to satisfy your deepest longings? Why? What happens when we look to anyone or anything other than God to be our saviour?
6. What does Jesus reveal as the true priority for us all – and the one thing that will really quench our thirst (vv.23-24)? What kind of relationship is God seeking with us? What would it look like for you to seek after God as the answer to your deepest thirst? Are there any changes you need to make to pursue this?
7. Trace the woman's growing awareness of who Jesus is through v.9 ... v.19 ... v.29 ... leading to the villagers' conclusion in v.42. How might this encourage us to continue patiently sharing the gospel with other thirsty people?

### **In Conclusion**

- Remember that the aim of John's gospel is "that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name" (20:31). How has this passage added to your understanding of who Jesus is and what He came to do? Pray in the light of this.

*Eddie Larkman, March 2018*