

# The Journey: Ask Me

Week of February 12, 2017 | Lesson 6 | John 4:1-29, 39-42



## For the Disciplemaker

The fourth step along the 4D Discipleship Pathway is DISCIPLE. Remember, "disciple" is an action verb. Christ made it clear in the Great Commission that His disciples are to make disciples who will in turn make disciples. No, this does not necessarily mean knocking on the doors or preaching on a street corner. But it does mean being purposeful in helping others take their next step, whether it be discover, deepen, do, or disciple.

At this point, participants should at least identify and pray on a regular basis for people they know whom they think might be far from God. There is an excellent "app for that" related to their neighbors – [www.pray4everyhome.com](http://www.pray4everyhome.com). Encourage your home group participants to give it a try and routinely talk share about their experiences in praying for their neighbors.

## The Previous Step

Use the first third of *Group Time* to build relationships and review the previous lesson.

- **Care and Share**  
"Break bread" together and pray for one another.
- **Check-Up**  
Ask for volunteers to quote verse 11 (or more) from Ephesians 4:11-13. Assign verse 12 to be learned by next session. Next, ask the group to retell the story of Priscilla and Aquila in Acts 18. Revisit the next steps each participant shared last week. Ask them to describe any progress they have made with their next steps.
- **Cast Vision**  
Ask: What are the first three steps (D's) of the 4D Discipleship Pathway? Which step (D) remains? What do you understand the Bible to say about disciplining? What does it look like to disciple another person? How do you begin making a personal investment in someone else's spiritual growth? State: It starts with prayer! Introduce and describe [www.pray4everyhome.com](http://www.pray4everyhome.com) and encourage participants to begin praying for their neighbors and others they know who may be far from God.

## Bible Study and Discussion

Use the second third of *Group Time* to [discover](#) and [deepen](#) in the Word.

- **Tell the Word**  
Read John 4:1-29, 39-42 several times in advance so that you will be able to retell most of it in your own words. Anticipate possible answers to the questions below that are designed to help the group *rebuild* the story and commit it to memory. Feel free to add some of your own who/what/where/when questions.
  - Where was Jesus in this passage?
  - Who does Jesus ask for water?
    - Why was she surprised by Jesus speaking to her?

- What kind of water does Jesus offer the Samaritan woman?
- When Jesus asks the woman to find her husband, how does she respond?
  - What did Jesus know about her relationship history?
  - What conclusion did the woman draw about Jesus?
- Jesus then identifies himself as who?
- What did the woman do when she returned to her town and what was the result?

Ask participants the following at every *Group Time*:

- What did you learn about God in this story?
- What did you learn about the people in this story?

- **Read the Word**

Lead each participant to follow along in his/her own Bible as someone reads aloud John 4:1-29, 39-42. Instruct them to identify any differences from when you told the story. Anticipate possible answers to the below questions designed to help the group personally *relate* to the story. Feel free to add similar questions of your own.

- What did Jesus mean by living water?
- Based on this story, what kind of experience is needed to be an effective witness for Christ?
  - How might telling your own story be different than having an intellectual debate about Christ?
- If you shared your journey of faith, what could you say about:
  - Your life before Christ?
  - What led you to follow Christ?
  - How your life is different now?
  - Your hopes for the future?
- I was unusual for a Jewish man to speak to a Samaritan woman. What does this tell you about how Jesus views race, gender, and political divisions?
  - What are some things that divide us today?
  - What types of people are often marginalized today?
  - What are some practical ways you can reach someone who may be on the margins of society?

Ask participants the following at every *Group Time*:

- Is there an example to follow or a command to obey? If so, what?
- What is the Holy Spirit revealing to you personally through this story?

## The Next Step

Use the final third of *Group Time* to prepare to **do** and **disciple**.

- **Identifying My Next Step**

Guide everyone to ask God, in silent prayer, to show them what He would have them do this week as a result of the Bible study. Following the prayer time, ask everyone to write down and share their next step. Ask, "Whom can you begin to disciple this week?"

- **Partnering**

Participants should not go at it alone. In the remaining time, instruct them to partner with another person or two to plan ways each one can move toward accomplishing his/her next step. They should also practice retelling the story and/or its key truths conversationally as if they were telling it to someone outside the group. Finally, practice reciting Ephesians 4:11-12 together. Each set of partners should conclude by praying for one another with respect to their individual next step.