

A Bag Full of Rocks

John 4

Focus: This message called us to embrace and offer Jesus' work on the cross as the only solution for our sins and for the sins of the unlikeliest of people.

RESOURCES:

Here is a helpful series of short articles on John 4:

<https://lauratarro.wordpress.com/2015/08/28/an-appointment-with-a-stranger-part-one/>



2016 Annual Priority:

To establish a greater devotion to believing and being shaped by the three great loves embedded in our mission statement's goal of becoming a mature and ministering worshiper of God; love for God, love for the church, and love of neighbor.

Discussion:

- Either listen to the story as it is read in The Message Bible or the NIV Dramatized version on the Bible Gateway website: <https://www.biblegateway.com> or you can watch this portrayal: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47OkuvT5JFo> starting at 25:38
- (you may want to reread the story from John 4.1-42 in the scriptures, too)
- What impacts you most about Jesus and his encounter with this woman? What would make this such a shocking encounter!? What kind of encounter in our day might have similar elements?
- Discuss how her relationship with her townspeople is transformed by her encounter with Jesus. How is that a model for us?
- How does this passage encourage or challenge you as you think about sharing Christ with others? What do you learn from it? Are there any "unlikelies" in your world that you need to begin to pray for and reach out to?