# Tuesday Bible Study—Share with Others

***Scripture References****:* John 4:6–15, 27–30, 39–42

***Memory Verse:*** “Sing to the Lord. Praise Him. Day after day tell about how He saves us. Tell the nations about His glory. Tell all people about the wonderful things He has done” (Psalm 96:2–3 NIrV).

# Learning Outcome

Campers will learn that the woman at the well believed in Jesus and shared the good news about Him with her friends. They will understand how they can become Christians and how they can share the good news of Jesus with others.

**Background**

By all conventional standards of the day, the conversation at Jacob’s well should never have happened. For one thing, Jews were contemptuous of Samaritans over both racial and religious issues. Add to that the traditional Jewish practice of men not speaking to women in public, and you’ll discover that this encounter between Jesus and the unnamed Samaritan woman was strikingly unconventional!

Notice how the woman’s perception of Jesus changed as the conversation progressed. At first, she thought of Him only in terms of His race—*a Jew* (verse 9). Then she acknowledged that He was also *a prophet* (verse 19). As she told others about Him, she wondered excitedly if He could possibly be *the Christ* (verse 29), the one both Jews and Samaritans expected to come and free them from foreign oppression. The villagers soon went even further, declaring Jesus to be *the Savior of the world* (verse 42).

This story is a wonderful example of someone whose immediate reaction to Jesus is to trust in Him, and then to tell someone else about Him so they can trust Him also. The children who will be your campers have open, trusting hearts. When they realize, through the Holy Spirit’s convicting them, that they are sinners and need to be rescued (saved) from the punishment they deserve, they will want to accept Christ’s salvation. Some will be at that point when they come to camp, and for others, your teaching will lay an important foundation for when they reach that point in the future. Be sensitive to each child’s spiritual development. Don’t pressure a child into making a decision.

**Preparation**

1. Write each of these words on a separate index card: *water, jar*, *well*, *disciples*, *woman*,and *town*.
2. Use half sheets of construction paper to make seven name-signs: *Jesus*, *woman*, *town* *person*, and *disciple* (make four of these).
3. Make four copies of the drama script “Jesus and a Samaritan Woman” (Activity Sheet 8) and highlight individual parts.
4. Make copies of the “Response Cards” (Activity Sheet 9). Cut them apart so each camper will have a card.
5. Write the first two sentences of the memory verse in large print on a piece of construction paper. Write each of the remaining three sentences on separate sheets of construction paper.
6. Obtain sheets of peel-and-stick shipping labels. Cut them apart so each camper will have one label.
7. Gather masking tape, pens or pencils, a variety of markers, glitter pens, and gel pens.

**Introductory Activity**

Play a guessing game using the words on the index cards. Choose a card and give clues describing the item without naming the item itself. Campers must guess what the item is. The camper who guesses correctly chooses a card and gives clues for that word. Continue until all words are identified.

Read all the words again and tell the campers that they are part of today’s Bible story. Let them guess what story they think it might be. If someone guesses correctly, affirm their answer. If no one guesses right away, tell them it’s the story of Jesus talking with the woman at the well.

**Bible Study Activity**

Ask for volunteers to act out each of the reading parts: *narrator*, *Jesus*, *woman*, *one town person*. Give each actor their copy of the drama. Assign four other campers to be disciples. (If you have a small group, assign one or two campers to be disciples.) Tape name signs on the actors. All other campers will be townspeople. Instruct townspeople to choose something to represent a well where they get water. (This could be as simple as a clean bucket, or a blanket swirled in a circle—anything they come up with is fine.) Place the “well” in the center of the Bible study area.

Send the townspeople and woman to one side of the area, and Jesus and the disciples to the opposite side. Instruct the actors to perform the story as it is read. Give guidance or prompts if needed.

At the end of the drama, seat the campers in a circle around the “well.” Say: *Like the Samaritan woman, each of us comes to a point where we realize we need a Savior. We understand that we have done things that are wrong—sins—that separate us from God. We have chosen our own way instead of God’s way. We need God’s forgiveness for our sins.*

Briefly explain how to become a Christian:

***Admit***to God that you are a sinner and are sorry for your sins. Turn away from

sinning. (Romans 3:23, 6:23, and Acts 3:19)

***Believe*** that Jesus is God’s Son, who took the punishment for your sin by dying

on the cross. Promise to let Jesus be in charge of your life. (John 3:16, 14:6, Acts 4:12, Romans 5:8, Ephesians 2:8–9, and John 1:11–13)

***Confess***, or tell others about, your faith in Jesus. (I John 1:9 and Romans 10:9–10, 13)

**Prayer Activity**

Instruct campers to turn around so they are facing away from the well and spread apart a little. Hand out the “Response Cards” (Activity Sheet 9). Be sure the children put their names on the cards. Lead the campers in prayer for those who are ready to accept Christ as Savior, that they will have the courage to do so, and that God will help each camper to know when they need to take that step.

Go over the choices listed on the card. Give the campers a moment to quietly think, pray, and mark the statement that best fits them. Tell them to fold their cards in half, drop them in the “well,” and stand. (If you prefer, have the campers keep their cards. Explain that you are available to talk with them at any time about becoming a Christian.)

**Memory Verse Activity**

Direct the campers to form four groups. Hand each group one part of the memory verse and have them practice saying it together. Then direct them to say their part when you point to them. Point to the groups in order, until the verse has been quoted several times. Next have them put down their papers and say their part of the verse in order. Finally, have the whole group repeat the entire verse in unison.

Ask: *What did the Samaritan woman do after she realized who Jesus was?* (went back to town and told others about Him)Comment that we live our faith out loud by sharing it with others, like today’s verse says.

**Bible Learning Application Activity**

Tell the campers that they can make a sticker that will give them opportunities to share their faith with others. Give each camper a label and set out the markers and pens. Encourage campers to write or draw something about their faith on the sticker. Explain that they will be able to share what the sticker means with people who see it (for example: a cross, heart, and the letter U for *Jesus loves you* or ABC for *Admit, Believe, Confess*). As campers work on their stickers, talk with them about where they can put their stickers (on a book cover, lunchbox, backpack, etc.) so others will see it.

While campers are making their stickers, collect the response cards from the “well” and put them aside. Be sure to read them later and follow up with any campers who indicate that they have questions or are ready to accept Christ.

**Jesus and a Samaritan Woman**—*Activity Sheet 8*

Narrator: Jesus and His disciples were on a long trip that took them through the area called Samaria. At noon one day, they stopped by a well outside a town. (*Jesus and disciples approach the well.*) Jesus sat by the well to rest, and His disciples went into town to buy food. (*Disciples go to where the townspeople are standing.*)While they were gone, a woman came to the well to get some water. (*Woman goes to the well; she reaches in to get water.*)

Jesus: Will you give me a drink?

Woman, *surprised*: You are a Jew. I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?

Narrator: She said this because Jews didn’t usually have anything to do with Samaritans. The two groups disliked each other very much.

Jesus: You do not know what God’s gift is. And you do not know who is asking you for a drink. If you did, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.

Woman: Sir, you don’t have anything to get water with. The well is deep. Where can you get this living water?

Narrator: Jesus wasn’t talking about water to take care of the woman’s thirst. When He spoke of living water, He was really talking about taking care of her need for God’s forgiveness. After they talked about her sinful life and about God, Jesus told the woman who He was—the Christ, the Savior she had been waiting for.

Just then the disciples returned with lunch. (*Disciples rejoin Jesus.*)

The woman was so excited to discover who Jesus was, that she left her water jar at the well, and went back to town to tell everyone there about Him. (W*oman rushes back to townspeople*.)

Woman: Come. See a man who told me everything I’ve ever done. Could this be the Christ? (*Townspeople and woman all go to the well.*)

Narrator: Many of the people believed in Jesus because of what the woman told them about Him. They invited Jesus to stay with them, so He stayed for two days. Because of His teaching, many more people became believers.

Town person: We no longer believe just because of what You said. We have now heard for ourselves. We know that this man really is the Savior of the world.