



Episode 8: I am He

Jacob and his sons dig a well in the land of Canaan, the land to which God has brought them as sojourners. The locals cannot understand why they follow this God, and think them foolish for obeying and trusting Him. But He provides for them, and they strike water, water that continues to sustain the people of Samaria as Jesus and His disciples travel there.

God chose the people of Israel to be His own. Now, He is made visible in Jesus, and He no longer chooses just one nation. Now, in choosing an unlikely woman, He chooses us all...

As He speaks to the woman at the well, He is not just talking to one individual: He addresses the Church, He addresses all of us, all of us who are Chosen by Him.

Questions for Prayer and Discussion

Some of these questions are very personal. There's no need to say anything aloud unless you're comfortable sharing it. But it is worth sharing with God in prayer...

Gaius tries to help Matthew. He genuinely thinks he's helping by encouraging him to associate only with good people, to maintain his lifestyle. Have well-meaning people ever inadvertently led me away God?

Shmuel appreciates Nicodemus' increasing popularity, as he thinks it improves his own career prospects. This isn't unreasonable. But why is it that Shmuel isn't aiming in the right direction?

It often happens that Jesus' opponents understand Him at least as well as His supporters – and sometimes rather better. Shmuel realises that Jesus claims to be God, even as Nicodemus is afraid to make this conclusion.

Is there a conflict between Simon's family and his new-found faith in Jesus? What ought he to do?

Two seconds after being healed, Dasha serves drinks. What does this say about her? What does it say about Jesus' power?

Nicodemus can't follow Jesus. Is this the end for him? What is Nicodemus missing out on?

The woman of Samaria is cynical at the beginning. Am I?

Jesus breaks her cynicism. This is painful for her. But the result is that she comes to know Jesus as the Messiah. Am I willing to have my spirit, my pride, my ego, my cynicism... broken so that I can come to know Jesus?

Jesus has made Himself known publicly. The world is a totally different place now. The woman rushes to tell the Good News – do I rush with her?

Some passages of Scripture you might find useful:

Mark 1:29-31 And immediately he left the synagogue, and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever, and immediately they told him of her. And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her; and she served them.

Mark 2:14-17 And as he passed on, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him.

And as he sat at table in his house, many tax collectors and sinners were sitting with Jesus and his disciples; for there were many who followed him. And the scribes of the Pharisees, when they saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

John 4:1-42 (excerpts) Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." ... Jesus said... "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ); when he comes, he will show us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."