

## **BIBLE READING DAY 6, FRIDAY: MARCH 4**

### **Jesus Goes to Galilee**

*Matthew 4:13–17; Luke 4:14–15; John 4:1–54*

And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news of him spread through all the region round about. And he taught in their synagogues and was acclaimed on every hand.

And leaving Nazareth, Jesus came and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea in the country of Zebulun and Naphtali, that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled,

***The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light: a light has dawned on those who sat in the land and shadow of death.***

*From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."*

Now when Jesus knew that the Pharisees had heard that he was winning and baptizing more disciples than John (though Jesus himself did not baptize, but rather his disciples) he left Judea and departed again to Galilee, passing through Samaria. And he came to a village of Samaria called Sychar, near the field which Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, being tired from his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

There came a Samaritan woman to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone into the village to buy food.)

The Samaritan woman said, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me—a Samaritan woman?" For the Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.

"If you knew about the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,'" replied Jesus, "you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

"Sir," said the woman, "you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, and his sons and his cattle?"

"Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again," said Jesus, "but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst, but the water that I shall give him will be a fountain of water within him springing forth into life eternal."

"Sir," said the woman, "give me this water, that I may not thirst again nor come here to draw water."

"Go call your husband and come back," said Jesus.

"I have no husband," replied the woman.

"You were right in saying 'I have no husband,'" said Jesus, "for you have had five husbands, and you are not married to the man with whom you are now living. You told the truth when you said you have no husband."

"Sir," said the woman, "I see that you are a prophet! Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where men should worship."

"Woman," replied Jesus, "believe me, the time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship without knowing what you worship; but we know what we worship, for salvation is to come through the Jews. But the time is coming, indeed it has already come, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for the Father seeks those who will truly worship him. God is a spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

"I know that Messiah is coming," said the woman, "and when he comes, he will tell us all things."

*"I who speak to you am he," said Jesus.*

*At that moment his disciples appeared and were astonished to find him talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you talking with her?"*

*Then the woman left her waterpot and hurried into the village and said to the people, "Come see a man who told me everything I have done! Is he not the Messiah?" And they left the village and hurried to him.*

*Meanwhile, the disciples kept insisting, "Rabbi, eat something."*

*But Jesus said, "I have food to eat of which you are not aware."*

*Then the disciples said one to another, "Did someone bring him something to eat?"*

*"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me, and to finish his work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, and then will come the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, open your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already ripe for the harvest. And he who reaps receives wages and gathers fruit for life eternal, so that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this harvest, the proverb indeed*

*is true, 'One sows, and another reaps.' I sent you to reap a harvest for which you did not toil; others have toiled, and you have reaped the fruit of their labor."*

---

---

*"What we need to do is to ask for grace to be truly ashamed of ourselves, and to pray that we may so overflow in love to God that we shall overflow in love to our fellow-men, and so find it an easy and natural and joyful thing to share with them the good news of Christ."*

---

---

*And many of the Samaritans of that village believed in him because of the testimony of the woman who said, "He told me everything I have done!" And when they came to Jesus, they begged him to stay with them, and he remained there two days. And many more believed because of his words and said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of your report, but because we have heard him ourselves, and we know that he is indeed the Savior of the world."*

J.I. Packer,  
*Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*

*Jesus came again to Cana in Galilee, where he made the water wine. Now there was a nobleman at Capernaum whose son was ill. When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he hurried to him and began to beg him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.*

*"Unless you see signs and wonders," said Jesus, "you will not believe."*

*"Sir," said the nobleman, "please come down, before my child dies!"*

*"Go your way," said Jesus, "your son will live."*

*And the man believed the word Jesus had spoken and went his way. And as he was returning, his servants met him and reported that his son was alive and well. Then he asked them the hour when he began to mend, and they replied, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." Then the father knew that it was the very hour in which Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he and all his household believed. This is the second miracle that Jesus performed in Galilee, after he returned from Judea.*

### Approximate Timeline of Jesus's Public Ministry

BEFORE BAPTISM	BEFORE BAPTISM	FIRST PASSOVER	SUMMER	FIRST BOOTHS	WINTER	SECOND PASSOVER	SUMMER	FIRST BOOTHS	WINTER	SECOND PASSOVER	SUMMER	THIRD BOOTHS	WINTER	FINAL PASSOVER
----------------	----------------	----------------	--------	--------------	--------	-----------------	--------	--------------	--------	-----------------	--------	--------------	--------	----------------

## DEVOTIONAL DAY 6 (FRIDAY MARCH 4)

Love, Jesus's Greatest Superpower

*Based on John 4:1-54*

Most people, at one point in their lives, have wished they could have superpowers. Some want super speed while others want super strength. Any power you could think of was free game in a kid's imagination! However, one power that is always wished for or mentioned is the ability to read minds. In all honesty, this superpower would be absolutely amazing; on the other hand, this power could be quite annoying sometimes. When you were younger, did you wish you could read minds, too? I know I did!

In looking at John 4, we find a similar story where Jesus appears to have a "superpower." While enroute to Galilee, Jesus goes through a city in Samaria named Sychar. Right before He arrived in the city, He was "*wearied from His journey*" (v.6). This little detail sparks an encounter that would begin Jesus's official ministry. After meeting a Samaritan woman at a well, Jesus begins a conversation with her. This action is so bizarre that the woman said, "*How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?*" (v.9).

This seemingly minute action of asking for water proceeded with fruitful conversation of how one can obtain eternal life. But why would Jesus even talk to someone who was a Samaritan? The Jews and Samaritans were notorious for hating each other. If anyone else had run into this Samaritan woman, hostility, disrespect, and hate would be the response. Now, on top of this, Jesus knew of the woman's sinful past: She had five husbands! It is almost ironic that such a sinful woman would stumble across the perfect Savior.

### OTHER REFERENCES

Several places in the gospel suggest that Jesus could "perceive their thoughts", including Matthew 9:4, Matthew 12:25, Mark 2:8, Luke 5:22, Luke 6:8, and Luke 7:39-40.

With that in mind, we can truly understand Jesus's love and desire to share the Good News. To Him, geographical, ethnicity, or one's history was irrelevant. Sharing the Good News was imperative. Personally, I have had the privilege to visit Honduras a couple times. During these mission trips, I shared the Gospel and showed the love of Christ in me.

Was the culture different? Absolutely. Were the people different? Yep. Did they believe something different than me? Sometimes, yeah. However, despite these differences, the Gospel had to be shared.

J. I. Packer once said that we are to "pray that we may so overflow in love to God that we shall overflow in love to our fellow-men, and so find it an easy and natural and joyful thing to share with them the good news of Christ." I pray this becomes your prayer and your attitude as well. When we truly grasp God's grace in our lives, evangelism is inevitable.

Have you been put in a situation that was like what Jesus went through? If you have, what was your response? Did you take the opportunity to share the Gospel? How about in days to come? Will you be ready, willing, and able to dedicate your life to sharing the Gospel at all costs, regardless of the circumstances?

No, you don't have to have the superpower of being able to read minds. There is a great power than that, but it too comes from God. That power is the power to love enough to share the love of God.

**Lord, thank you for providing a perfect model of love. Help me to trust in You so that I can have a heart for other people. Give me a desire to evangelize to anyone I talk to. Amen**

--By Seth Derr

**WRITE DOWN YOUR THOUGHTS IN RESPONSE TO WHAT YOU HAVE READ:**

**WHAT DID GOD SAY TO ME?**

**PRAYER: WHAT DID I SAY TO GOD?**

**ACTS OF PRAYER: ADORATION, CONFESSION, THANKSGIVING, SUPPLICATION** (How God Can Supply Needs)

**A**

**C**

**T**

**S**