

Folks Who Jesus Loved; But Will You? Tonight's Focus

The Woman At The Well
The Tax Collectors



The Aim of This Study

1) Is to help us see how Jesus interacted with and treated the social outcast of His Era.

2) Show how Jesus' response to the outcast was promoted by His love for them and His treatment of them shaped by His love of them.

One Reason Jesus Hangout With Outcast ...

Jesus hung out with outcasts because he was creating a model of how to build His Church, one lost sheep at a time.



The Woman At The Well

The woman was a Samaritan, hated and rejected as an outcast of the worst type, especially by the Jews.

Yet Jesus and his followers – all of whom were Jewish – made a point to walk through Samaria.



The Woman At The Well

Jesus decided to stop and rest at one of the **Samaritan** wells.

He struck up a conversation with a **woman** – a sinner and an outcast. They have a lengthy conversation, which included acknowledging her **adulterous** life.



The Woman At The Well

John 4:7 A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, **“Give me a drink.”**⁸ (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.)⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?” (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)¹⁰ **Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.”**¹¹ The woman said to him, “Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?”¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.”

The Woman At The Well

Jesus, the Savior of the world, asks an outcast to help him.

Indicating the reality:

- In God's eyes, no one is too far gone.
- He has a purpose for each of us.
- He'll never let us be alone.
- He is always right there.

The question is, are you willing to engage him.

The Woman At The Well

By the end of their talk, Jesus declared Himself the Messiah and she gratefully accepted that revelation.

Not finishes with his work, he headed into town with the woman and hun gout with the villagers for two additional days.



The Tax Collector

Matthew (Matthew 9:9-10)

Tax collectors during that time were notorious thieves and swindlers.

However, this generalization didn't stop Jesus from reaching out to Matthew, or from eating dinner with him and others.



The Tax Collector

Matthew (Matthew 9:9-10 NIV)

The Calling of Matthew

⁹ As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. **"Follow me,"** he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

¹⁰ While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, **many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples.**



The Tax Collector

Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10 NIV)

Tax collectors during that time were notorious thieves and swindlers.

However, Jesus repeated His love in another town, with a different tax collector.



The Tax Collector

Luke 19 Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. ² A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. ³ He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.



The Tax Collector

Luke 19 ⁵ When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, **“Zacchaeus, come down immediately.** I must stay at your house today.” ⁶ So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

⁷ All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.”



The Tax Collector

Luke 19 ⁸ But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.”

⁹ Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”



Ephesians 2:16-18 The Message

Christ brought us together through his death on the cross. The Cross got us to embrace, and that was the end of the hostility. Christ came and preached peace to you outsiders and peace to us insiders. He treated us as equals, and so made us equals. Through him we both share the same Spirit and have equal access to the Father.

