

Brokenness & Loss: Repaired with Gold, Restored with Living Water

Read the account of Jesus and the woman at the well in the Gospel of John 4:1-30. Read it carefully and make note of any details that stick out or questions that it raises for you.

1. The teaching in the video starts out talking about kintsugi, the art of repairing cracked pottery with gold. Although that's a nice analogy, often it doesn't feel like this is happening to us. We just feel broken. Take some time to examine your life and identify areas that are "broken". Do these areas make you feel hopeful or hopeless?
2. From what you read in John 4 and from the details given in the teaching, how do you think the woman in this account felt about her life? What are somethings you might have felt in her situation?
3. Often times we try to minimize the things that have broken us with statements such as "Everything happens for a reason." Think about it..... that makes God the author of everything bad that has happened to you and everything bad that you have done yourself. In this passage Jesus never claims any responsibility for the woman's brokenness. Instead he does four things; He exposes her brokenness, He shows that He's aware of it, He offers to restore her, and He reveals His identity as the Savior. How might this perspective give you a healthier view of the painful or sinful experiences in your life?
4. The previous question was not meant to imply that God never causes or does things for specific reasons. Obviously Christ was in a very specific place on specific day to talk to a specific person. Why do you think He chose to offer restoration to this particular woman? What hope does it offer you that he shared the most hopeful message ever with the person virtually everyone else had rejected?
5. Read John 4:9-15. One scholar comments, "*Jesus's uses the term living water to mean the grace of the Holy Spirit that leads to eternal life (see John 7:37-39). This gift not only remains in the person but is so abundant that it overflows to others.*" In what ways have you allowed the

work of Christ and the in-dwelling power of the Holy Spirit to not only bless you, but bring peace and blessing to others? If you have trouble thinking of ways that you are a blessing others, what might be preventing that from happening?

6. What are some ways you use to attempt to “quench your thirst” that ultimately don't satisfy? Why do you think you turn to these things instead of the living water Jesus offers?
7. It's ironic that this woman the early church came to know as Photini ended up losing her life by sharing the living water with others. What are some things that you might have to sacrifice in your life to live out a life of salvation in Christ?
8. “*Sir, give me this water.*” It was a simple response to an offer. She certainly didn't have everything figured out when she made the request. Yet she asked, “*Give me this water.*” because she was thirsty. Sometimes we try to wait until we have everything figured out. But maybe all we need to know is that we're thirsty. Have you asked yet? Right now you can start with a simple, humble prayer. “*Sir, give me this living water.*” And then just like the woman, go tell someone.