**Living with Outreach**

**Jn 4.34-5 8-15-21am, QBC**

There was once a great and powerful king. He was very good and kind. He was wise and compassionate. He wanted the best for His kingdom.

One day, as he was riding in his coach, he saw a dirty young boy scavenging through the garbage. Stopping the coach, the king stepped out and asked the boy what was going on. Knowing the character of the king, the boy bowed and answered. Hearing that the boy had no home, no real family and no hope, the king asked the boy if he would like to come home with him for a snack. The boy jumped at the chance and boarded the coach.

At the castle, the boy was given bread and milk. He wolfed them down eagerly and expressed sincere gratitude.

The boy was surprised at what came next. Instead of being put back on the street, he received another gracious offer. If he was willing to bathe and put on clean clothes, he could dine with king himself. Of course, the boy jumped at the chance. Soon the boy was soaking in a warm bath and playing with a little boat.

It wasn’t long before the king himself came in. He lovingly washed the boy’s hair and scrubbed the boy all over. When the boy was clean, he was provided clothing fit for the king’s own son.

Shortly, the boy found himself at a table in the kitchen. Joined by the king, they dined and talked and laughed. The boy was amazed and his good fortune. Before they were served cake and warm milk. The king said he had another offer. Politely, the boy said he was so appreciative of all the king had done for him, and that he was glad to hear the offer.

The boy was overcome when the king offered to take him in as his own son. The boy would be adopted, and the king would be his father. The boy would carry the father’s name and would live in the castle.

The boy, overcome with flooding emotion and wonder and joy, leaped from his chair and embraced the great king. The king told the boy that it would be expected that he would act like the king’s son, bear the name well. He would develop the same character as his new father. The boy would be expected to look out for others, like himself, who were lost in life, undone and hopeless. The boy would be expected to bring them in, just as the king had brought him in.

And so, the homeless and hopeless boy, became s son of the king. He gained a new home. His future was secured. He grew and learned and fulfilled his call to look out for those needed the compassion of the king. The boy and many, many others lived happily ever after.

That is a nice story. It is story of **grace** and **blessing** and **transformation**. It is also a story of **outreach**.

In our acronym, **O** in POWER is for **OUTREACH**. Outreach is **basic** and **vital** to the Christian life and the health of the church. Outreach is simply reaching out to those in need in the Spirit, grace and name of the Lord.

There is SO MUCH to learn from the Bible. It became obvious to me that John’s gospel is a handbook for ministry, outreach and evangelism.

Our text introduces us to **the woman at the well**. Jesus encounters her. He tells her needed truth. She goes and tells others in the village of her encounter with the Lord. She says, “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the messiah?” (29).

“Now MANY Samaritans from that town believed in Him BECAUSE OF WHAT THE WOMAN SAID when she TESTIFIED” (39).

There you go. THAT is **OUTREACH**. That is evangelism. That is Christianity at WORK. That is how it is SUPPOSED to be. One person who meets Jesus, tells another who tells another. It is not fancy. It is not too hard. It is just REAL. Outreach is not for a SPECIAL FEW. Outreach is for **EVERY** BELIEVER!

Come with me to chapter 1. It is FULL of witnessing and testimony . . .

1.6 - a man SENT from God (> apostello = apostle)

 Came as a WITNESS (marturian = martyr)

1.7 - came as a WITNESS

 So he could BE A WITNESS

1.8 - he came to TESTIFY

1.14 - the WORD became FLESH and DWELT among us

1.15 - John TESTIFIED

 EXCLAIMED … SAYING

1.18 - the Son REVEALED the Father

 To consider out, to rehearse, to unfold, declare or tell

1.19 - John’s TESTIMONY

 I am a voice

 PREPARE the way of the Lord

1.29 - LOOK the LAMB of GOD

1.30 - This is the One I TOLD YOU about

1.32 - TESTIFIED - SAW

1.34 - I have SEEN and TESTIFIED

1.35 - Joh tells 2 disciples

 1.36 - LOOK, the LAMB of GOD

 They SAW Jesus

1.39 - COME and SEE

1.41 - Andrew FOUND his brother SIMON

 We have FOUND the MESSIAH

1.42 - Andrew BROUGHT Simon to Jesus

1.43 - Jesus FOUND Phillip

1.45 - Phillip FOUND Nathaniel

 We have found the One Moses wrote about

 1.46 - COME and SEE

Isn’t that **cool**??!!??

 One chapter, just ***JAM PACKED*** with witness and testimony.

 People FINDING Jesus, then finding others and INTRODUCING them to Jesus.

 We see WITNESSING — “telling what you know”

 We see people following Jesus

Remember back in the days BEFORE copying machines, when they used mimeograph machines? The old MIMEOS.

I am going to use MIMEOS as another acronym! Ta Da!!

 MIMEOS is a way of listing aspects of outreach. Let me show you …

**M** - Missions

 Home - Foreign - Local

**I** -Invitation

**M**—Ministry

 Serving, Helping, Leading, Teaching, Doing Good

**E**  - Evangelism

 Sharing the GOSPEL in the power of the HOLY SPIRIT and leaving the RESULTS to God.

**O** - Opportunities

 Serendipities, “Chance encounters” NOPE God’s appointments!

**S** - Special Events

MIMEOS as outreach because we want to **COPY what Jesus did**

 We want to COPY **what Andrew did**.

 We want to COPY **what the woman at the well did**.

A DSICIPLE is a **COPY** of their TEACHER!

 Are WE like ***JESUS***??

 Are we COPYING what disciples **DO**??

 Outreach is for **EVERY** DISCIPLE

Outreach is **BASIC Christian LIVING**!

**OUTREACH is *PART of BEING* a CHILD of the KING!!**