

“Glow”

GO: You Have What It Takes- Part 7

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## **Introduction:**

John 4...pg. 639

### **1. Jesus went out of His way to make contact. Vv.4-9**

\*he broke cultural norms- Samaritan/woman/sinner

\*he went out of his way and took time to encounter her when he was tired.

\*he initiated a spiritual conversation by asking her for help

\*he used an everyday occurrence to transition the conversation to a spiritual level

*I want to initiate for Jesus in every day situations...*

### **2. Jesus knew He had something His new friend needed. Vv. 10-15**

*\*If you only knew the gift God has for you...you (would ask me about it)...*

- We have a precious gift- forgiveness, peace, hope, help...
- God has given us the Holy Spirit...
- We hold something of inestimable worth....
- If people understood it...they would want it....
- *If we fully understood it...we wouldn't be able to keep it to ourselves!*

### **John 7:37-39**

*<sup>37</sup> On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, "Anyone who is thirsty may come to me! <sup>38</sup> Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, 'Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.'"<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>39</sup> (When he said "living water," he was speaking of the Spirit, who would be given to everyone believing in him. But the Spirit had not yet been given,<sup>[b]</sup> because Jesus had not yet entered into his glory.)*

***I have something my friend needs...whether they know it or not.***

\*Part of my task is to help my friend begin to look at life from an eternal perspective instead of just an earthly perspective. Jesus was talking about things of eternity...while the woman was stuck in the here and now. “Living water” vs. “this water”.

***I must help my friend think beyond today...***

**3. Jesus gently drew attention to her choices and worldview. Vv. 15-19, 25-26**

\*Jesus reached a point in the conversation where He turned the attention to her lifestyle choices. She was struggling to make relationships work and living in a situation that was not honoring to God. Her current operating system was faulty and not producing results that were fulfilling to her or honoring to God.

Jesus brought this to the forefront of the conversation. She recognized that He had peeled away the layers of her life and saw below the surface of their conversation about water.

In our relationships, the best way to help our friends see God’s plan for their lives...and how their lives may not match up with God’s plan for them...**is to get them to read the Bible- on their own...or better yet- with us.**

The Bible not only teaches people about God, His love, and His plan for redemption...but it connects to people’s hearts in a way that our words cannot. As they read, the Holy Spirit has freedom to work and reveal God’s truth. They can begin to see for themselves the richness of God’s word and how it makes sense for life. They begin to see how their choices against God’s plan are not only not in line with what God wants—these sinful choices also hurt them and others around them as well.

***I must invite my friend to encounter God’s truth in the Bible.***

## **Hebrews 4:12-13**

<sup>12</sup> *For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.* <sup>13</sup> *Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable.*

### **Illustration:**

Randy Tidd- Tracie Lain...

#### **4. Jesus was most fulfilled by advancing God's work. Vv. 27, 31-34**

(sharing your faith is the most fulfilling way to invest your life):

\*the disciples were living in the here and now- they were finding food while Jesus was changing a life.

\*they were finding satisfaction in silencing their growling stomachs (this is good and necessary)- but Jesus was fulfilled most by doing His father's will.

\*most Christians know what we are to be doing and investing our lives in- the question is whether we DO what we know. When we don't - we miss out on what brings us most joy- doing the will of God as His ambassadors.

\*I can be caught up in doing all kinds of things- maybe even good things- but missing the most important things.

***I can find deep life's deepest fulfillment by telling others about Jesus.***

### **Illustration:**

I can still remember where I was and what happened in the instances I have had the privilege of leading someone to accept Jesus as Forgiver and Leader. These are significant milestones- *a life transformed*...being used by God as people cross from death to life, spiritually, are some of the richest times of my life.

#### **5. Jesus operated with a wide view of God's sovereignty and activity. Vv.35-38**

There's more going on than what u can see!

\*God is at work drawing people to himself.

\*God is at work around us- there r people ready to engage the gospel.

Bobby- *no one has ever asked me that before (meaning- “no one has ever asked me if I have made a choice to follow Jesus...”)* **Some people out there are ready!**

Colossians 1:4-6

<sup>4</sup> *For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all of God’s people,*

<sup>5</sup> *which come from your confident hope of what God has reserved for you in heaven.*

*You have had this expectation ever since you first heard the truth of the Good News.*

<sup>6</sup> ***This same Good News that came to you is going out all over the world. It is bearing fruit everywhere by changing lives, just as it changed your lives from the day you first heard and understood the truth about God’s wonderful grace.***

\*our job is to be a part of the process- plant a seed, water, harvest.

\*it doesn't do any good- you don't get any points for having seeds but not being willing to plant them!

***I must “wake up and look around”—God wants to use me in His process to transform lives around me.***

#### **Illustration:**

Paterno should have done more, should have said something, should have taken more initiative. **How many of us are guilty of the same!** We should say more...we should take more initiative...we should take the challenging course...not the easy one...**Lives r at stake.** We know we should do more but are afraid to risk- afraid to break the status quo.

#### **6. People changed by Jesus are the best witnesses for Jesus. Vv .28-30, 39-42**

\*she went and shared even though she was marginalized. **Her excitement over what she had heard and seen- her encounter with Jesus- trumped fear over what people would think of her.**

\*she invited others to come and see what she had. **Sometimes invitation is the most powerful tool**- invite someone to church, to read a book, to read the Bible with u, to coffee...

\*some believed just by hearing...but others had to go through a process and see and encounter Jesus' words for themselves.

***I am most likely to share Jesus when I am being changed by Jesus.***

Look at all that happened because Jesus stopped for a drink and a woman responded to Jesus' call- a whole town was saved.