Please turn to the book of John and Chapter 4 in that great gospel. As you are turning there, I want to tell you about something I will never forget when I worked at Virco in Conway, Arkansas of all places. Bobby Conway was living in Conway. You can imagine that I had a lot of fun with that at times. And as I worked in Virco, I worked in this little security shack where I would check cars that were coming in. If you had your Virco badge, you were allowed in. If you didn’t have a Virco badge, you needed to be checked by me, the security guy in the little booth. It was kind of like a kingdom, you know.

And I would sit in this little booth for hours upon hours. And you know my story how I was very ignorant in the way that I grew up. I didn’t study, I didn’t read, I didn’t love learning at all. But when I fell in love with Jesus I just wanted to learn and to grow and to share Christ with people. So I would sit in this little Virco shack and I will never forget how I would get the phone book out. I just had such a burden to see people come to know Jesus. And when I felt confined in that little booth I would want to tell people about Jesus, so I would just get out the phone book. And I would go through it, find a number, and then I would say, ‘Bill Worsehall, let’s give him a call.’ And I would dial that number up, and when they would answer I would say, hey, man, my name is Bobby and this might sound crazy for me to call you, but would you mind if I just talk to you for a moment. And then I would tell him about Jesus and His death, burial and resurrection. And I would ask him to repent of his sins. And I would do that over and over.

And I realized that we are never without a witnessing opportunity. If you have a phone book, you have an opportunity. But one day while I was in my booth and sitting there something ended up taking place. A car came up to my booth, and I began talking to a lady, and I asked her where she went to church. And I will never forget what she said after I invited her to come to my church. She said, ‘you know what, my husband would go to a church but the problem is he doesn’t have a suit and a tie to wear.’ And I said, ‘Mam, you need to understand something. He does not need a suit and a tie to come to my church. He can come however he chooses to dress.’

And you know I thought about that after our conversation, and I thought that is how it can get sometimes. I was right there in the Bible belt in this rural town in Arkansas, and I thought about this idea of how people create such religion in the church. You know, don’t come to church with your multiple tattoos. Don’t come to church with your purple and red hair. Don’t come to church with earrings in funny places. Don’t come to church if you have a drug problem or an alcohol problem. Get your life cleaned up, play the part, and then come.

And you know that kind of stuff just has to quit, doesn’t it church? Because what I believe is Jesus Christ loves people with purple hair and blue hair and red hair and yellow hair. Jesus loves people with earrings through their nose, through their ear,
through their tongue or through their lip. Jesus loves people who use and abuse, who smoke things and drink things they ought not to, who take pills that make them feel funny. He loves people. He loves outcasts, that is what He loves. And it is mind boggling. It is startling. And we see how much we are not like Jesus sometimes in the way that He loves.

We were singing a song ‘Teach Us To Love The Way That You Love.’ Do you realize what you are singing when you sing that song? Because Jesus loves unconditionally. You are almost singing ‘Wound Me God By Others So That I Can Love Them Like You Love Me Unconditionally.’ Jesus loves the Outcasts. He loves us with a love that is unexplainable. And the question is, do we love people that way?

I will never forget when Heather told me about a gal that had a ministry where she would go down to strip joints to build relationships with those female strippers. Because she wanted them to know Jesus. I thought that was just like Jesus, going to places that religious people couldn’t imagine. Not going for the wrong reasons, going to be able to say you need Jesus Christ. And investing in that person, loving that person. We become so separatist in our life sometimes. And we love our little studies, and we love our little knowledge that we learn, and we grow our big heads, but Jesus wants us to reach our community.

And today we are going to come to this passage of Scripture that is going to show us, and demonstrate to us, grace personified. In John Chapter 4 you are going to see Jesus meet a woman. Now Jesus loves outcasts, but He also loves the upper class because we just saw Him talking to Nicodemus, who was a religious Jewish ruler. And now we are going to see Him talking to a woman at a well. And Jesus just meets people in different places. He met Nicodemus in the middle of the night. He meets the woman at the well in the daytime. He meets Zacchaeus in a Sycamore tree. Where did He meet you? Maybe He is going to meet you in this room today. Maybe you feel like an outcast on the outside, not accepted, and not loved. I hope that the eternal, everlasting love of Jesus Christ will be experienced in your heart today as you experience the truth.

So pick up with me in this story in John Chapter 4 and beginning in verse 1, “Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John, although Jesus Himself did not baptize, but only His disciples, He left Judaea and departed again for Galilee. And He had to pass through Samaria.”

Let’s just stop here for a moment and get our bearings. (Map on screen). If we could see a map right now it would help us see where we are. So He left Judaea, which would be down at the bottom tip of the map, and He was headed to Galilee which is up north, and Samaria would be right smack in the middle. Now obviously the quickest
route from Judaea to Galilee is to go straight through Samaria. However, Jews wouldn’t go through Samaria very often. Some would, but it wasn’t to socialize with the Samaritans because they saw them as outcasts. They saw them as filthy. They saw them as unclean. In fact the Samaritans were despicable to the Jews. There were horrible race tensions between the Samaritans and the Jews. The race tensions would be like what was experienced not long ago in our own pathetic American history when the segregation was taking place between the whites and the blacks.

But here is Jesus, He is in Judaea, He is going to go to Galilee and He is not going to go through Samaria because He is in a hurry. He is going to go because He has a divine appointment from His Father. And so it says in verse 4, “He had to pass through Samaria.” Now this verb is basically a strong verb. It is a verb of divine necessity. He had a God appointment from the Father. The Son was doing His Father’s will so He went where the Father said. So He had to go. He wouldn’t have had to go through Samaria, but because of the Father He had to go through Samaria. Make sense? He didn’t have to go through Samaria. Why? He could have gone up north along the Jordan River to get there. He could have gone around Samaria and bypassed it which some of the religious folk would have done.

Can you imagine that? I mean they would walk hours upon hours extra just because they were so holy that they didn’t want to walk through Samaria and get defiled by the Samaritans. And these religious people, these Jews, actually thought that they were pleasing God as they would walk around Samaria and bypass it. But what we see happening here is we see Jesus makes a straight shot because He had a divine appointment.

Verse 5, “So He came to a town of Samaria called Sychar near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph,” which we see in the book of Genesis. “Jacob’s well was there.” Now understand there is nothing you can find about this idea of Jacob’s well in the Old Testament. It doesn’t mention Jacob’s well in the Old Testament. It mentions the field that he was given. But we know that it is not disputed that there is such a thing as Jacob’s well. The Samaritans believe it, the Muslims believe it, the Jews believe it, and the Christians believe it. In fact today we know where that well is. That well is nine feet in diameter today and it is seventy-five feet deep. Back then that well was probably about twice the depth of that. So it was probably a well that was about a hundred and fifty feet deep.

(Photo placed on screen). We can see a picture right here. This is Mount Gerizim and basically what is taking place is right in front here there is a well. You don’t know exactly where it is, but when you Google it, it tells you there is a well and there is Mount Gerizim. And basically you need to understand that there is the mountain and that is where the Samaritans worshipped on Mount Gerizim. And the Jews would worship in
Jerusalem as you will see in a little bit. I stared at this photo forever thinking ‘where is the well?’ But we know that Jacob’s Well is one of the most non-contested ancient artefacts from the ancient world that we know about.

It says in verse 6, “Jesus was wearied from the journey.” So Jesus is on this journey and had been traveling for a while, and He is weary. We know that Jesus was fully God and fully man. Right? And so we know that He had a human nature and a divine nature, and as man He would get thirsty, He would get tired and He would experience the feelings that we experience. So here He is weary, and unfortunately there isn’t a Gatorade machine around, so what does He do? He goes and gets some well water. Now Jews wouldn’t even want to stop at this well. I mean this is the well the Samaritans are drawing their water from. So first of all Jesus is willing to stop at this well.

And then it says, “He was sitting beside the well, and it was about the sixth hour.” Now we have to ask the question what time is that in our language? If it is using Roman time then the sixth hour would be a different time. It would be 6:00a, because Roman time would start at midnight and the sixth hour would be 6:00a. But if it is Jewish time then this sixth hour would be noon, because the Jews started their time at 6:00a in the morning. I would lean toward saying it is noon at this time because Jesus probably wouldn’t be wearied, and He probably wouldn’t be thirsty at 6:00a. And He probably wouldn’t have spent the night in Samaria so He would have been traveling a little bit. So I would venture to say it was probably noon at this time. And Jesus is tired.

So get the picture in your mind now. Here is Jesus, He has been walking for a while and He is at this well, Jacob’s well. And He knows that He has a divine appointment. And it says in verse 7, “A woman from Samaria came to draw water.” Now what you want to understand first of all is it says, “A woman from Samaria came.” It doesn’t say ‘women from Samaria came.’ Scholars believe that this also helps us to understand that this woman truly was an outcast, because it was common for women to travel in caravans or in groups when they would go to draw water. They would come together in groups. But this woman was all by herself.

And so you can just see her realizing it is time for her to get some water as the day is going on and it is about noon. And here she is going to the well and she sees this individual sitting there. Little does she know it is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, that it is God in the flesh seated at the well. You know she is just thinking she is going through a mundane routine, but she is about to meet the Messiah.

And that is how our life works sometimes. You just wake up and there you are doing your everyday routine and God meets us in the midst. You think it is just going to
be another day, and God is going to do something so powerful, so glorious. He is going to meet you in a way that is going to bless you.

And so, “A woman from Samaria came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 
Give me a drink.” Now let’s begin to unpack this problem here. Number one, Jesus stopped at the well. Number two, Jesus is going through Samaria. Number three, Jewish men did not talk to Samaritan women, especially one on one. Right? And you will see in a little bit that Jesus knows all about this woman. And so we see this different side of Jesus, this non-religious side of Him in this moment.

“Give me a drink,” that is even more profound. Not only is He talking to a woman, not only is He talking to a Samaritan woman, not only is He in Samaria, but He asks her for a drink. And any Jew would believe that this Samaritan woman would be too unclean to give them a drink.

But Jesus isn’t religious. Jesus is different in this moment. And in verse 8 it says, “For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.” I just started thinking as I was meditating over this passage that boy, if I was one of Jesus’ disciples, I would be thinking why is He making us walk into the city for food when we have seen him prepare ‘fast food’ with the loaves and the fishes. So why did He send His disciples to buy food? Because He wanted to just deal with some religion. When the disciples come back, He has an example by what He did here, doesn’t he? He wanted a one on one time with this woman.

Verse 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.” Just picture that. If you would have known who it is in your presence, who I am right here. I mean this is profound. If you would have known this is me – Jesus. Sometimes we even come to church on Sunday morning and God is moving and He is trying to get your attention, and we are just side tracked. Right? We’re thinking about other things, doing other things, not really thinking about it. But we have this opportunity where we can encounter God, where we can experience the Lord, where we can fall in love with Jesus.

Jesus is in this woman’s midst and little did she know that the one who created her was having a conversation with her, as they sat there at the well together conversing. What does she do next? Let’s keep reading in verse 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.” Some Bible versions may read ‘have nothing in common with Samaritans.’ Some commentaries say that Jews wouldn’t eat or drink from the same utensils that the Samaritans used. They believed they would be defiled if they did.
And so here in this situation this Samaritan woman is scratching her head wondering what was different about this man and what was the deal here. She couldn’t believe He had asked her for a drink. He was a Jew, what is going on, why would He do that? Again verse 10 says, “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.” The words ‘living water’ in the Greek is ‘flowing water.’ But we know that what Jesus is really getting at is eternal life. If you knew who it was in front of you, you could have asked and He could give you eternal life.

Now this woman was probably very empty in her life. This woman was someone who was dark and steeped in sin, very promiscuous. She was an outcast. She wasn’t accepted by her culture. And so imagine this insecure, guilt ridden woman in desperate need of forgiveness and clueless about who God is, and then this conversation is taking place.

Verse 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?” Now what would happen is people would travel with leather buckets for when they would come to a well and they could take their leather buckets and drop them into the well and get out water. But this woman recognized that Jesus did not have anything to draw water with. You is thinking, where is your bucket? You don’t have anything to draw water. And the disciples probably have the bucket, but they are going into town to get food and they could put the food in the bucket to bring it back to Jesus.

So here is Jesus in this situation right here and He is telling her if she only knew who He was that He could have given her living water. And I think about that and I go, imagine that today. Let’s get this scenario in our minds. You show up at a soda machine and you are thirsty, and you drop in a dollar or four quarters and what you want is some Dasani water. And so some stranger comes up and says, don’t do it, don’t do it. If you drink that water you are going to be thirsty again. Let me encourage you to get water from me. If you drink my water, you will never thirst again. That is the kind of conversation this woman and Jesus are in right here. And we would think hey, this guy is nuts, what is wrong with him? Why are you offering me this water? Have you ever tasted Dasani? It is fresh, it is clean, and it is pure.

And this Samaritan woman is thinking, don’t you realize we are at Jacob’s well? This is the best well there is. And so here they are at this well in this situation and she is just not connected with what is going on. She said, “Sir, you have nothing to draw water with and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?”

Verse 12, “Are you greater than our Father Jacob,” she asked Him. Can’t you just see Jesus on His inside going, ‘As a matter of fact, I am much greater. In fact I
created Jacob. Not only that I provided this land in the past for him. Not only that I gave him the strength that he had to dig this well. Yes, I am greater than him.’ Later on He is going to get asked this question in John Chapter 8 and verse 53, “Are you greater than our father Abraham?” Of course He is. He was before Abraham. He is eternal. He is the son of God who took on flesh through the incarnation.

Let’s keep on reading in verse 12, “He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.” Verse 13, “Jesus said to her, Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again.” If you try to find your greatest satisfactions here on an earthly level, if you as one scholar said, “If you keep licking at the earth, you are going to find that it doesn’t satisfy.” You were created for another world. You are never going to find your ultimate satisfaction here.

I like this quote by Blaise Pascal, “There is a God shaped vacuum in the heart of every man which cannot be filled by any created thing, but only by God, the creator, made known through Jesus.” Jesus is the only one who can fill our void. He is the only one who helps us to never thirst again. He is the only one that offers true and everlasting refreshment. We can go to that movie and enjoy a film but the closing credits soon come. We can go out and enjoy that nice Mocha-Chino at a good coffee shop but soon you will be at the bottom of the cup. You can enjoy an evening of romance with your spouse but it will soon end. You can enjoy a vacation but that vacation has a ticket back home. You may find pleasure in seeing a sight that you have never seen before but you will not always transfix on it. It will come to an end. There are smaller glories here on earth that we get to enjoy to create a heart and an appetite for the greater glories of eternity, for the greater glories of being with God, for the greater glories of knowing and being in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

“You will be thirsty again,” Jesus said. In Isaiah Chapter 12 it says, “With joy you will draw from the wells of salvation.” That is a prophesy right there. Let’s go to this next verse in John Chapter 6 and verse 35 and it says, “Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life, whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall not thirst again.” Now this is why you have to interpret the verse in light of context because if you went hard core literal, you would believe in Jesus and then you would start fasting from food and water and you would die about thirty days later. Right?

So Jesus is talking about something non-earthly here. He is saying if you will come to me you will find such satisfaction. Here is another verse in John Chapter 7 and verses 37 and 38, “On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, If anyone thirsts let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me as the Scripture said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” That’s what happens. Why? Because when the living water gets on the inside, then it can flow out from the
inside. Jesus will turn you into a well, and people can come and experience words of Christ from you. You can share Jesus with people and they can be refreshed from you.

You see little did this Samaritan woman know that Jesus did not go to the well because He was thirsty. He went to the well because she was thirsty. Jesus didn’t go to the well because He needed that well. Jesus went to the well because He is the well. And He went to the well so that she could drink from Him. So that she could know Him. She could find her satisfaction in Him. Jesus is the place where we find that satisfaction.

Does that make sense? I don’t know how to explain it, but there is just something about Jesus. If you don’t know Him, I would love to endorse Him. I would highly recommend Jesus Christ. I would highly recommend that you place your faith in Him, and look to Him, and fall in love with Him, and know that He will change your life. Your life will always have a God shaped hole in it; you will always feel empty apart from God. You will not know what to do with your guilt. You will not know what to do with your frustration. You will not know how to make yourself better. You will live frustrated in the flesh. You will live in your own energy and you will never find your greatest desires fulfilled apart from Jesus Christ. He is the place you need to go to if you want to be satisfied.

Verse 14, “But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water, welling up to eternal life.” What He is saying is you need something bigger than a momentary sip of water. You need to taste and see that He is good.

Verse 15, “The woman said to Him, Sir, give me this water.” At this point you are thinking, yes, she is getting it. Awesome! And then you keep reading and you think, oh no. “So that I will not have to be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.” So you start off thinking oh, yeah, she has it and then, oh no, she doesn’t. Do you ever have that happen when you are witnessing to someone? You think they are getting it, and then boom, they don’t have it at all. And you are like, oh, Lord, please help them. Right?

Verse 16, “Jesus said to her, Go call your husband and come here.” What? Jesus could seem so random sometimes. They are sitting there having this conversation and He says, “Go call your husband and come here.” And she is probably thinking what in the world is He talking about. He offers me living water and now he is telling me to go get my husband, and I am not even married. What is He doing? Just hold on for a second. Buckle up.

Verse 17, “The woman answered Him, I have no husband. Jesus said, You are right in saying I have no husband, for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.” What is Jesus doing? Jesus doesn’t believe in permission evangelism. There are books that are written out
there about permission evangelism. Jesus just met this woman, and what He is going to do is He is going to show her what her real problem is. Jesus was using this as an opportunity to say, you know what, Mam, here is why you are not understanding my message about living water. Because you have a problem. You are a whore. You are a promiscuous woman with a sexual problem in your life. You are sleeping around trying to find satisfaction in other men. You are trying to find satisfaction with other guys and you have sinned deeply. And you have guilt in your heart. And until you recognize your sin, you will never experience the life changing waters that I give.

And Jesus hits the balance on the head, because in our culture what you get is two camps. You get one camp over here and they are all grace. They love the Samaritan. They love the person. But they will never point out the sin. And they just sit there and they love on them, and they care for them, and it is great. But really, we are not being a friend if we are not willing to love them enough to confront them. Honestly, let’s be real, the reason we don’t confront people’s sometimes is not because we don’t believe they need it, it is just we love ourselves so much that we don’t want them to dislike us if we do confront them.

Then you come to the other camp and what you have in this area is the religious people who love pointing out sins, who love putting down Samaritans, who love putting down outcasts. And they don’t go to Samaria, they take another route. They travel another way and they don’t go near them. They are religious and the world pukes at the church because of people like that.

Then we come to the middle, and here is Jesus. And what Jesus does is He models grace and truth. Jesus knows that He has grace, but you will never experience it apart from the truth. So you need to hear this. And what our world is telling people all over the place is you can have grace without truth. And it is heresy!

If you want to experience grace, you get it through the truth. And the truth is we are totally, completely and utterly depraved, separated from God, wicked. We are not God seekers, we hate God, we shake our fist in His face. We aren’t concerned about His burdens until we are convicted of the truth of our sin. And then when we admit it, wells of living water come rising up and we experience grace.

So Jesus speaks in truth and in grace. And the woman says in verse 19, “The woman said to Him, Sir, I perceive you are a prophet.” He had just told her some interesting stuff and she is wondering how did He know that? “I perceive you are a prophet.” What Jesus is doing is He is progressively revealing His greatness and glory to her. He is unfolding Himself in her presence as one who loves her as an outcast, as one who knows all about her, as one who is inviting her into a rich relationship.
So let’s keep reading in verse 20, “And she said, Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you say Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship. Jesus said to her, Woman, believe me.” The term ‘woman’ is not degrading when He is using it here; it would have been a courteous gesture. “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know.” In other words she was lost. “You worship what you do not know.” She was worshipping the wrong thing. Her idolatry would lead her straight to hell. She was worshipping what she did not know.

Verse 22, “We worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.” You know that is where God started His promise. “But the hour is coming, and now is here when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship Him. God is spirit and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth.”

So Jesus talks to her, to this outcast, and says, look this is what true worship looks like. It is not locational, it is personal. You are not to go worship in some place; you are to worship a person. And the hour is coming and now is here because I am here, it is me, and I am the way, the truth and the life. And we need to worship in spirit and in truth.

And again you get two camps. You get one camp over here and they are all spirit. They worship with heart and they are all about the experience. But they could just read some faulty, theological book and they get emotional. And they are all into emotionism, there is no grounding whatsoever. And they are wishy-washy and they end up becoming heretical in their beliefs because they have never been discipled. And they have never learned true theology. And so they are all emotional and they are worshipping in their hearts.

Then you come over here to the other camp and they are all head. And they get nervous when they see someone excited and animated for Jesus Christ. As if the Apostle Paul wasn’t head over heels for Jesus Christ when he wrote the book of Acts. He was singing while he was in prison. What’s wrong with the man? A worship service? You can’t read the book of Acts without realizing these people were so deeply in love with Jesus Christ. They are experiencing Him but with soundness and theology.

And we need theology. We need truth. We need to first understand who God is and to think rightly about Him in order to experience Him, because if we don’t understand Him correctly our experiences may be misguided and we may not be experiencing God but Satan in our experience.

So Jesus comes over here because if we are experiencing something that is not grounded in truth it is not of God. Jesus comes and says the time is coming when you are going to worship in spirit and in truth, head and heart. And the time is now here. And
Jesus was that person who was bringing an end to the temple because He was the new temple. And we are going to be able to worship Him as part of the body of Christ when you believe on Him.

Read with me the last verse that we will look at for today. Verse 25, “The woman said to Him, I know that Messiah is coming, He who is called Christ. When He comes, He will tell us all things. Jesus said to her, I who speak to you am He.”

Prophecy is fulfilled in this woman’s presence right here. She came to the water well but the living well was right here in her presence. The Messiah was right there before her eyes. It was Jesus. What a moment that she got to experience.

Yes, Jesus loves outcasts. Let me close with a story about a gal by the name of Agnes. This is a true story. One night a guy showed up in a diner. It was real late about 2:30 or 3:00 in the morning. He showed up in this greasy spoon diner, got himself a donut and some coffee, and sat there looking around his environment. And soon several prostitutes walked into this greasy spoon diner that he was in. While he was sitting there one of the prostitutes said, ‘tomorrow is my birthday.’ And her friend said, ‘so what, who cares, what do you want us to do, throw you a party or something?’ And she said, ‘gee whiz, I am not asking you to do anything, why would I ask you to do that, no one ever has thrown me a birthday party.’

And the man that was in the diner that night overheard her and soon she and the girls left. He walked up to the owner and said, ‘tell me, what is that girl’s name? And the owner said, ‘her name is Agnes.’ The man said, ‘it is her birthday tomorrow and no one has ever thrown a birthday party for her. Let’s say we throw a party for Agnes.’ The owner thought about it for a little bit and then said, ‘that sounds like a great idea. Let’s do it. I’ll provide the cake and you can decorate the diner.’

Because the owner knew that Agnes came by every night. they were ready the next night. The man had the place all decorated and the owner had made a cake. And word had spread so all the prostitutes in town came out for Agnes’ surprise birthday party. And when Agnes walked through that door they all shouted out, ‘Surprise. Happy birthday, Agnes.’ And they brought the cake up to Agnes, all lit up with candles.

And Agnes couldn’t say anything; she was just completely humbled and broken to think that anyone would think to do this for her. She had never had a birthday cake or a party before. And she just sat there holding the cake while the owner told her to blow out the candles. But Agnes didn’t blow out the candles, so finally the owner said he would blow them out for her. And Agnes said, ‘please don’t cut into my cake, just please let me take this home with me for a little bit.’

And she walked out the door carrying her cake. And the man was left there with all of the prostitutes, and he didn’t know what to say so he said, ‘let’s pray.’ And he
leads them in a prayer. And when he was done, the owner said, ‘I didn’t know you were a preacher. And what kind of a church do you go to?’ And the man answered, and this is a quote, “The kind of church that throws birthday parties for whores at 3:30 in the morning.” The owner said, ‘Man, I have never heard of a church like that.’

The true pristine church of Jesus Christ, the actual body of Christ, has been justified because of their faith in Christ. But the church welcomes those from the outside that are different and we must be a church that has open arms to people that are different. We must share the truth with grace. We must have open arms to the homosexual community as a church. Why? So that we can share the gospel with them and show them love, and not just sit around and throw stones all day.

We must show love to prostitutes. We must show love to tattooed people. We must show love to people who dress funny, like your pastor. Right? We need to show love to people, and to care for people. Why? Because God loves outcasts.

Are you an outcast in this room today? Do you know Jesus Christ? He died on the cross to save us, His church. He shed His blood. And if you would be willing this morning, because God’s Holy Spirit has so moved in you to help you to be willing, because in or of yourself, you will not even respond. So cry out to Him if you do not know Him. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins and thank Him for dying on a cross.

Listen to what Revelations Chapter 22 says, “The spirit and the bride say come, and let one who hears say come, and let the one who is thirsty come, let the one who desires take of the water of life without price.” That is grace. Let’s pray.

God, I am humbled by the fact that you love us. You love outcasts. I was an outcast, and so was every Christian at one time, but you drew us by your effectual saving love. And we praise you for that. And Lord, we know that there are more to the body of Christ that you have died to redeem, and we pray that we would reach them and love them. And we pray that we would spread your love to this world around us. And God, I pray that you would help this passage to touch people’s lives. Amen.

The story is not finished; part two is next week. What is going to happen to this woman? What is going to happen to Samaria? We will have to wait and see. But right now if you don’t know Jesus, I invite you to pray in the quietness of your heart. The Bible says, “Whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” The Bible says, “If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”

So there is no magical prayer, it is just call on the name of the Lord and be saved. It is telling Him that you have sinned and you believe in Him and you want justification.
You want Him to forgive you. And if you will tell Him you believe, the Bible says whoever believes will be saved.

Father, we love you so much. Amen.