

John 4 – For Everyone

These are the leaders notes from the Kielder Bible Study Group for the meeting that was held on 24th September 2012

Recap

Some key points form chapter 3 :-

- Nicodemus Asking questions
- John the writer gives a definitive truth John 3 v16
- John the Baptist – Baptising

Some key points form the chapter :-

You must be born again to be a Christian It is not a human activity, but a miracle. It is not something we do but something God does.

- A Christian is one who has received a new life from God and is indwelt by the Holy Spirit
- Jesus often speaks in ways that only the believer will understand
- Jesus exposes men's hearts by the way they respond to him
- Jesus is challenging people in how they respond to him – no sitting on the fence.

John 4

In this section John now recalls Jesus meeting a woman that was a complete contrast to Nicodemus. As we read the passage lets see how many contrasts we can spot between the two. (1-26)

v1-3 & v4-6

Q Why did Jesus stop?

v7-9

Q What were the disciples doing? – A They had gone off for food as they would not have purchased it locally due to the racial issues between Jews and Samaritans.

V10-12 & v13-15

Q What did Jesus offer the woman?. - A Living water (Water was a sign of life in the area due to the drought conditions)

V16-18

Q How does the Jesus' answer explain why she was at the well at this time?

V19-20 & v21-24

Q What sort of worship does God require? A Honesty

v25-26

Q What does Jesus' revelation to the woman tell us? - A Jesus came for everyone.

Differences identified.

- Nicodemus was a man, she was a woman – in the culture at the time woman were looked down upon
- Nicodemus was a Jew she is a Samaritan. There was intense racial hatred between the groups at the time, and normally a Jew would avoid Samaritan
- Nicodemus was of high cultural and moral standing. The woman was the opposite. She was a moral outcast drawing water at midday to avoid being seen.
- Nicodemus did not accept the Jesus but the woman did.

V27-30 Q Why was the woman's actions amazing? - A previously she had been too ashamed to come out when everyone was around to draw the water at the well now she goes looking for people.

v31-33

Q What does v32 mean? – A Doing God's will

v34-38

Q v37 mentions two workers who do we think they are?

V34-35 linked with Amos 9 13 -15 & Joel 3 12-14 Judgement on those who reject him

Colossians 1 3-8

v39-42

Q How does v 41 relate back to v 37? A The woman was the reaper and Jesus the sower

Q Why is it amazing that Jesus stayed 2 days.

v43-47

Q To what event is v 45 referring to? John 2 v13-25

Q Whom were they welcoming? – A Not Jesus the messiah but a miracle worker

Q What had happened in Cana previously? – A Jesus turned the water into wine. John 2 1-11

Note Capernaum was 15-20 miles away.

v48-52

Q Why is verse 50 amazing? A -The man believes without seeing

v53-54

This chapter has some pointers on evangelism and belief, and worship

Evangelism – It is a two stage process – Sowing and reaping (If you don't sow you cant reap)

Belief – There seems to be a difference between those who see miracles and belief and those who do not

Worship – Needs to be honest – Ritual is not that important compared to honesty

Recap

Some key points form the chapter :-

- Jesus encounter with the Samaritan woman – Jesus' message is for all
- Living water,
- True worship and honesty in worship
- The woman's testimony stirring many to come and seek Jesus
- The coming to real belief by the official whose son is healed by Jesus.