

COMPASSION FOR THE UNSAVED AND URGENCY TO WIN THE LOST

(Orewa Community Church – 16/2/03 – EKB)

Reading: *Jn 4:3-42*

There are **two themes** in this reading:

- a. Jesus demonstrates **God's priority to win the lost**, v4-26, 28-30, 39-42, through the "woman at the well."
- b. Jesus teaches His disciples **the urgency to be actively winning the lost**, at all times, v27, v31-38.

A. Jesus meets the woman at the well.

This is my favourite Bible passage, because in it Jesus meets with a very needy person, a stranger to Him, deep in sin, and **offers her the water of God's Eternal Life**. He helps her to **confront her sin** and deal with it. **He reveals that He is the promised Messiah**. He works through her **to win many in her town to salvation**, v39,41.

If God does this for the "woman at the well," He will do it for me.

The Holy Spirit led Jesus to go through Samaria to demonstrate God's love for the lost, and so that we could have this event recorded in Scripture, *Jn 4:4(KJV)*.

Jesus shows **God's love for the lost**, *Lk 19:10, Mat 9:13*.

He brings **compassion not judgment**, *Jn 4:10, Jn 12:47, Jam 2:13, Ps 126:5,6*.

He relates to the woman **to engage her attention**, "Please give me a drink." *Jn 4:7*.

He builds a relationship of open friendship to a needy person, *Jn 4:9*.

He humbles Himself as a Jew to talk to a Samaritan woman, *Jn 4:9*.

He offers God's love, grace, mercy and truth, *Jn 4:10*.

He is led by the Holy Spirit in His reply, *Jn 4:13,14*.

His words are from God, relaxed, natural and relevant. (There is no forceful, legalistic striving.)

He firmly insists that **the sin issue must be addressed**, *Jn 4:16-18*.

He follows the lady's discussion on worship and throws more light on it, *Jn 4:19-24*.

He reveals that it is not your race, (Jew or Gentile), or where you worship, (Jerusalem or Samaria), **but it is who you are and the way you live**, that counts before God: those who are **simply and honestly themselves before Him** in their worship, *Jn 4:23,24*.

He reveals that **He is God's promised Saviour, Messiah**, *Jn 4:26*.

He lets her go, and gives her time, while He talks to His disciples, *Jn 4:27,31-38*.

She went into the town and she **called the men to come and meet Jesus**, *Jn 4:28-30*.

Many believed because of her testimony, *Jn 4:39*.

Many more believed when they heard Jesus, *Jn 4:41*.

B. Jesus' disciples were amazed that He was talking to the Samaritan woman, *Jn 4:27*.

They urged Him to eat some of the food they had bought in the city, *Jn 4:31*.

He told them He had food that they did not know about, which was **to be doing the will of the Father and complete it**.

He said, "Are you not saying there are four months to harvest?" *Jn 4:35*.

"Well I am telling you to **open your eyes and take a good look. These Samaritan fields are ripe. It is harvest time, NOW!**" *Jn 4:35* (The Message).

The Harvester is not waiting. He is taking His pay, and gathering in this grain that is ripe for eternal life. Now the Sower is arm in arm with the Harvester, triumphant, *Jn 4:36*, (The Message).

- a. **Can we follow Jesus' example to win the lost? Yes!**
- b. **Can we urge other Christians to do the same? Yes!**

Start today:

1. Pray for unsaved contacts, *Ac 26:18, Jn 16:8*.
2. Receive God's compassion, for the lost *Ps 126:5,6*.
3. Listen to and follow the Holy Spirit's promptings, *Ac 8:29*.
4. Ask for and receive opportunities, *Rev 3:8*.
5. Take His boldness, *Pro 28:1*.
6. He will give you words to speak as you ask Him, *Mat 10:20*.
7. Offer a tract.