

## **“How to Lead Someone to Saving Faith”**

John 4:1-42

Sunday, March 25, 2018

**Introduction:** When you get to heaven, you will see Jesus. This will be the greatest thing about heaven. Something else that will be great about heaven is that you will see people who helped you get to heaven. Don Piper has a new book coming out this fall entitled *People I met at the gates of heaven* that deals with this. Something else that will be about heaven is to see people that you helped get to heaven. Maybe helped them with your prayers, your witness to them, or your example before them.

How to lead someone to saving faith so they will go to heaven is what I want to talk to you about this morning.

**Text:** John chapter 4

- In John chapter 4, we read the story about Jesus and the Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well.
- In the story, we see some things to help us lead someone to saving faith.
- The first thing we see is that every person has a soul.

### **1. Every person has a soul (4:3-9).**

- Samaria was a region occupied by the tribe of Ephraim and half-tribe of Manasseh.
- The Assyrians conquered this region and took many of the Jewish people into captivity.
- Sometime later the King of Assyria transported many non-Jews into Samaria. These groups intermarried to form a mixed race called Samaritans.

- They worshipped false gods, only accepted the Pentateuch, and built a temple on Mt. Gerizim.
- The woman at the well was not only a Samaritan, but also a woman. A Jewish Rabbi would not speak to a woman in private.
- But Jesus saw more than a Samaritan woman. Jesus saw a soul.
- Every person has a soul.

**Application:** There should be no racial lines, religious lines, gender lines, or economic lines. Every person has a soul.

**Illustration:** This is reason that we have sermons interpreted into Spanish at the 11:00 am service.

**T.S.** Every person has a soul.

## **2. God can use you when you are not your best (4:6-8).**

- The Bible says, “Jesus was wearied from His journey” (4:6—NKJV)
- Jesus was thirsty—“Give Me a drink” (4:7).
- Jesus was alone—“His disciples had gone into town to buy food” (4:8).

**Application:** Sometimes we are not our best, but we can do our best and God will use us.

**Illustration:** Paul told Timothy, “Be read in season and out of season” (2 Timothy 4:2).

## **3. Jesus is the answer, and sin is the problem (4:16-18).**

- Jesus confronted her sin (4:16-18).
- Jesus then made clear that He is the answer (4:10).
- Jesus used the woman's need for physical water to sustain life as an object lesson for her need for spiritual transformation.
- Jesus made clear that He is the answer (4:13-14).

**Application:** To lead someone to saving faith, child or adult, they must understand and be convicted of sin in their life.

**Illustration:** Without repentance there is no salvation (Luke 13:3).

#### **4. You will encounter distractions (4:19).**

- The Samaritan woman discussed which mountain was the correct place to worship (4:19).
- The Jews accepted the Pentateuch and the prophets and believed Jerusalem was the correct place to worship God.
- The Samaritans used only the Pentateuch believing the first place where Abraham built an altar to God (Shechem—Genesis 12:6-7) which was overlooked by Mt. Gerizim was the place to worship God.

**Application:** Anytime you try to lead someone to saving faith expect distractions.

**Illustration:** I made a list of distractions that I have experienced. The first five:

1. Denominational differences
2. Hypocrites in the church
3. Already live a good life
4. Bible questions to debate

## 5. Family traditions

**Conclusion:** How to lead someone to saving faith. Jesus is our example. All of us using the gifts God has given us and the opportunities God gives us can do our part.

1. Your prayers for people who need saving faith. Let me ask you a question. Who are you praying for to experience saving faith?
2. Your witness to people who need saving faith. (Procrastination Booklets)