

HOW TO LEAD PEOPLE TO LIVING WATER



John 4:10-30

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Jesus' Method of Leading People to Water: John 4:10-30

The world is thirsty and doesn't even know it, or won't admit it, or will look to be satisfied by everything else but Jesus Christ. So your job and mine is to lead them to water (living water, that is). Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman illustrates perhaps the best approach for personal evangelism to be found anywhere.

Jesus' Method of Leading People to Water: John 4:10-30

Leading someone to the place of spiritual satisfaction is a process that rests upon two pillars—the pillar of attitude and the pillar of approach:

Jesus used two pillars to lead the Samaritan woman to living water

I. A Loving Attitude

Ask God to give you a loving attitude toward the lost

God's Love Transcends Culture

Jews had no dealings with **Samaritans**

Jesus needed to go through Samaria, because he loves everyone (Matthew 18:12-14)

Jesus used two pillars to lead the Samaritan woman to living water

Application: Is there a culture you have trouble with? Are you prejudiced? Ask for a transforming love for them

God's Love Transcends Gender

Strict Rabbis forbid younger rabbis from speaking to women (even their wives and daughters) in public

Jesus used two pillars to lead the Samaritan woman to living water

Women were subservient

Jesus saw her as one of his created beings, not as less

Jesus liberated women and raised them to the standard that makes them equal

(Galatians 3:28)

Jesus used two pillars to lead the Samaritan woman to living water

Love Transcends Character

Samaritan Woman is a woman of ill repute

Married five times, now living with someone who is not her husband

Application: No one is too low for Jesus to love

Jesus used two pillars to lead the Samaritan woman to living water

I. A Lingering Approach

Appeal to Human Curiosity

Jesus statement is not clear cut

Jesus causes her to wonder, wets her appetite

Application: Start with a statement that makes people wonder

Jesus used two pillars to lead the Samaritan woman to living water

A Lingering Approach

Appeal to Spiritual Craving

Jesus knew she had a deep longing in her heart

Human beings have an enormous thirst for spiritual things

Jesus used two pillars to lead the Samaritan woman to living water

A Lingering Approach

Someone once said,

"God put a hole in every human soul"

(Romans 8:20)

Application: Take your conversation to a deeper level

Jesus used two pillars to lead the Samaritan woman to living water

A Lingering Approach

Appeal to Guilty Conscience

Jesus penetrates defenses and goes for the heart

Jesus gets her to see her great need

Jesus used two pillars to lead the Samaritan woman to living water

A Lingering Approach

She'll never drink from living water until she recognizes the need

Application:

People must recognize their sin to see their need for a Savior