

## Sermon Series: On Map On Mission!

### Discipleship Phrase: I Belong

**Big Idea for Series:** Inviting PEOPLE into meaningful relationship with God and each other.

#### Abiding *[leading your group more effectively starts with you]*

Henry Blackaby writes, "Don't merely discipline yourself to read your Bible and to pray as if it is a life sentence you must carry out. Instead, approach your times with God as an opportunity to get to better know Someone who loves you with an infinite love...make it a priority in your life and in your devotional times to love Him with all your heart. It is never a chore to spend time with someone you love, although it can be tedious to spend time with a stranger." **This week, fall in love with Jesus all over again. Sit with Him, listen to Him, write to Him, and walk in obedience to every leading of His voice. He is not far away, he is very near! WHY DOES THIS MATTER?** Because your spiritual life, your spiritual growth, and your spiritual leadership depends on it!.....Not because we HAVE TO, but because we GET TO!!

#### For the Apprentice *[opportunities for the apprentice to shepherd the group throughout the week]*

This week encourage your **apprentice** to share their personal testimony (even if they have shared parts of it before) of how they came to Christ and WHO played a significant role in discipling them. Lead them to share it in 5-8 minutes max! Show them how their willingness to step out of their comfort zone to share will encourage your other small group members to do the same.

#### Feedback *[it is important to debrief in order to get better]*

Each week after group, block off a time with your apprentice to talk about group and share feedback. Discuss ways to promote healthy dynamics in your group time. Feedback questions **this week** to consider:

- What was the impact on our group when you (the apprentice) shared your story?
- How can we encourage and equip our group to share their stories in group (5-8 min max) as well as outside of group time?
- Is there a story/testimony we feel would be great to capture on camera to inspire our overall church body? (**if you have identified someone, invite this member to consider the opportunity**)

#### God-Stories *[each week you encourage to invite your group members to share God-Stories from the previous week]*

A God-Story is an undeniable encounter or experience with God that creates an impact or breakthrough in a person's day to day life. These moments can be extraordinary, such as healing of cancer or they can be very humble, such as a family member who prayed for the very first time.

#### BackgroundPLUS® *[a deeper dive into this week's story]*

- There are several connections and contrasts between the previous stories in the first couple of chapters of John. There is the continuation of water as a symbol and another is the discussion in which Jesus reveals Himself as the fulfillment of what the Old Testament anticipated.
- There are the contrasts: an unnamed woman who was an ordinary, low-ranking Samaritan, and a discouraged sinner, contrasted with a named man who was a high-ranking, morally upright teacher of the Jews and a Pharisee. Nicodemus sought out Jesus at night, but Jesus sought out the Samaritan woman at noon. Jesus told Nicodemus that he had to do something - be born again, but He offered the woman a gift, the water of life. Concern over worship, the result of salvation replaces concern over the new birth, the condition for salvation.
- **The Bible Project** - [John](#)

**"Every group deserves a great group leader..."**

## Week 2 - Topic: PEOPLE

**Takeaway:** Since Jesus can save anybody, we offer His message to everybody.

### Welcome / Open in Prayer

**Introductions:** [*Share the topic & takeaway this week from above*]

- **Review from Last Week:** [*Build in accountability to living it out*]
- **God-Stories:** [*See Leader Page for description fo God-Stories*]
- **Review the Guidelines:** [*Share the guidelines to set the rails for group time*]

**Ask a Hook Question:** [*A thought-provoking question to get the group focused*]

- Describe a conversation you have had with a famous or well-known personality.

**Share Background for the Story:** [*Provide context to the story from the Bible*]

In Jesus' day, the Jewish people shunned the Samaritans, viewing them as a mixed race who practiced an impure, half-pagan religion. The Samaritans saw themselves as the keepers of the Law and the true descendants of Israel, from the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh. They had their own unique copy of the first five books of Moses, and believed they alone preserved the original Mosaic religion. Samaritans also had a unique religious system and considered the Jerusalem temple and the Levitical priesthood illegitimate.

Needless to say, they did not get along, so "having to go through Samaria," makes today's story more intriguing.

**Share the Story:** [John 4:4-42](#) [Volunteer from last week shares the story]

**Rebuild the Story** [*Invites everyone to engage*]

**Read from Scripture** [*Read out loud to see if anything was added or omitted*]

**Discussion Questions:** [*Dive deeper, beyond the surface*]

1. Who did Jesus meet at the well? What was the "thirst that brought her to the well? What did she receive while she was at the well? (Samaritan woman. Water. Living Water)
2. The woman went to the well at noon, when it was not customary to go. What are some reasons you suspect she went when no one would be there?
3. Do you remember a moment when you wanted to share the Good News with someone, but you didn't? What are some of the reasons? (*rejection, uncomfortable, not the right time*)
4. Before we can offer an invitation, there needs to be conversation and development of relationship. Who is someone that God is leading you to intentionally talk with?

**Assign Next Week's Story:** [John 1:29 - 49](#)

**Prayer Requests:** [*Record, share & follow up throughout the week*]

**Closing Prayer:** [*Ask openly for a volunteer*]

*Inviting people into meaningful relationship with God and each other.*