

Jesus, the Savior of the World

Promise: Jesus promises to satisfy our deepest thirst and longings

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Exodus 17:1-7; Ps 95:1-9; Romans 5:1-8; John 4:5-30, 39-42

(Third Sunday in Lent, 3/12/23)

And many more believed because of his word. They said ... for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world.” – v. 41-42

Lead In – Concerning the work of evangelism that belongs to us all, we can learn important lessons from the Master in the Gospel Lesson this morning. As Jesus said when he called his first disciples, “Follow me and I will make your fishers of men” (Mt 4:19). So, we see the pattern, and we know catechesis (learning) comes first, then outreach. But this ‘one-two punch’ can come at the very beginning of the process...

I. Learning From the Master

- A. Who better to learn from?
- B. Jesus consciously left us an example to follow...
- C. And yet, there are things that only He can do!

II. Three Things We Can Learn From His Example

- A. Treat people with their God-given dignity. Ask...
- B. The interplay between the temporal and the eternal...
- C. Careful not to get sidetracked too far...

III. What Belongs to the Savior Alone

- A. He points to Himself, and we point to Him as well...
- B. He sets the terms for how we can encounter Him...
- C. It requires the work of the Holy Spirit with Him...

Parting Shot – The woman left her jar at the well so that she could tell people in the nearby village about her encounter and for them to see for themselves if Jesus might be the Messiah. She was a novice. She only had her first lesson in catechism class. But that did not preclude her enthusiasm in inviting folks, “Come see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” But that was enough. It was enough for many to come and to see and hear for themselves. And many came to faith in Jesus as the Savior of the World. What a difference it can make to point others to Jesus!

1Co 11:1 Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

1Th 1:6 And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus’ Divine Prerogatives and Perfect Faith: He could look upon a man’s heart. He knew all the details of a man’s life.

Jn 4:7 A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.”

Lk 5:3 Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon’s, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

Jn 6:8-9 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, ⁹“There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?”

Interplay Temporal And Eternal: hunger, thirst, birth, rest, “you think it is hot now!”, “It was a tropical paradise”, ...

John 4:5-30, 39-42 ESV

Jesus and the Woman of Samaria

⁵ So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob’s well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

⁷ A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” ⁸ (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?” (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” ¹¹ The woman said to him, “Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?” ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.” ¹³ Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” ¹⁵ The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.”

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.” ¹⁷ The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.” ¹⁹ The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.” ²¹ Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵ The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.” ²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”

²⁷ Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you seek?” or, “Why are you talking with her?” ²⁸ So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, ²⁹ “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” ³⁰ They went out of the town and were coming to him.

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me all that I ever did.” ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world.”

Jn 4:20 “Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.”

Jn 4:14 “whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

Jn 4:25-26 The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.” ²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”

In spirit and truth: No longer on the Mt, in the tabernacle, in the temple, but where Word and Sacrament are given.

The Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel enlightened me with His gifts, and...