Life Group Discussion Notes

New Beginnings Community Church

Date: July 30, 2023 Speaker: Ja'Mell Agustin

WHO, ME?

Scripture used: John 4:1-14 (NLT)

OVERVIEW

Today, Ja'Mell Agustin, NBCC's Director of Discipleship and Life Groups, began the "The God Who Sees" series with the sermon "Who, Me?". Many times in the Bible, the people of God were called by Him to do His work, and they asked "Who, me?" In the Old Testament, we see examples of this in Moses, Jeremiah, and Sara. This human response comes from our own blindness and insecurities. **God, however, sees where you are, who you are, and your true need.**

KEY POINTS

- 1. God sees where you are. Culturally, Jews viewed the Samaritans as a "half-breed" people who were of Jewish heritage who had mixed with Assyrians. Jews detested them and did whatever they could to avoid being around this group of people. Although He was a Jew, Jesus never avoided people because of where they lived or their cultural background. John 3:16 (NLT) tells us that God loves the world. He does not have favorites. Jesus purposefully sought out the Samaritan woman who went to the well at noon because she had been outcast by her own Samaritan community. Jesus broke cultural laws about men speaking to women and Jews speaking to Samaritans because He cared about this woman and not what people would think of Him. God saw her where she was at. We're never too far from God.
- 2. God sees who you are. Jesus had knowledge about the Samaritan woman before He met her at the well. She saw herself as unworthy and unqualified. She carried the weight of being rejected by her community. Jesus, however, treated her as He saw her worthy of His acceptance and attention. The woman requested that Jesus explain Himself to her. Why was He asking her for water? Who, me? God uses these requests as an invitation for us to grow and live as the men and women He created us to be that we don't yet see!
- 3. God sees your need. The Samaritan woman went to the well to get water for her everyday needs, but Jesus saw her deeper spiritual need for living water. He told her that He knew the shame she carried with her that kept her from wanting to be noticed. He shared with her that He was the Living Water the Messiah, and as we read in Psalm 139:7- 10 (NIV), there is nowhere the Samaritan woman could hide that God could not see her need. Jesus meets her in the place of her need. No "water" in this world can satisfy our thirst like the Living Water that God provides. All other wells eventually dry up. Wells of success, money, fame, job security, and human relationships dry up. We have a thirst in us that only God can satisfy. In believing this, the Samaritan woman moved from being a skeptic to being a witness to God's Living Water. In John 4:29a (NIV), the Samaritan woman invites those in her community to come and meet Jesus.

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** Read the story of the Samaritan woman in John 4. As you sit quietly and reflect on this story, ask God to reveal to you how you are like the Samaritan woman. Can you relate to her feeling unworthy and unnoticed? Have you felt like an outcast before?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** Ask God to show you where you might be asking, "Who, me?" What frightens you about God calling you to be His witness? What comforts you knowing that you have access to the Living Water of Jesus Christ? What encourages you about this interaction between Jesus and the Samaritan woman?
- 3) **DO** Has God been calling you to do something that prepares you have been avoiding? What steps can you take today to respond to that call? Ask God to reveal to you how He sees you and how He wants to use you. Perhaps He is calling you to be part of the "Explore God" campaign, which will be a significant initiative for the entire NBCC community this fall. If so, you can use this link to learn more: Explore God. Please join us next Sunday, August 6, as we continue the series "The God Who Sees".