

## **The Well of Life**

In Gospel of John chapter 4, we read one of the most tender and surprising encounters in Scripture: Jesus meeting a Samaritan woman at a well. This is not only a story from the past; it speaks powerfully to us today. It is a story about thirst, shame, truth, worship, and above all, God's surprising grace. In the story we see that Jesus is travelling from Judea to Galilee and deliberately passes through Samaria, despite the long history of hostility between Jews and Samaritans. Tired from His journey, He rests at Jacob's well near Sychar at noon. A woman comes alone to draw water, which is an unusual time, suggesting she may be avoiding others because of shame or rejection. Jesus breaks social and religious barriers by asking her for a drink. Jews did not normally associate with Samaritans, and men rarely spoke publicly with women in this way. Yet Jesus treats her with dignity. He speaks of "living water," offering something deeper than physical water - life that truly satisfies. When she expresses interest, Jesus gently reveals that He knows her painful history of broken relationships. He does not condemn her but speaks truth with compassion. Exposed yet accepted, she begins to see that He is a prophet. Then their conversation turns to worship. The long-standing debate between Jerusalem and Mount Gerizim is answered by Jesus' beautiful declaration: true worship is not about place but about worshipping the Father in spirit and in truth. Then He reveals clearly that He is the Messiah. Transformed by this encounter, the woman leaves her water jar and tells her town, "Come and see." The one who may have been rejected becomes the first witness in Samaria. Through her simple testimony, many believe.

This story reminds us that Jesus crosses boundaries to meet us. He knows our truth yet loves us fully, He satisfies our deepest thirst, and turns our shame into joyful witness – so that others may also hear and believe that He is the Saviour of the World.