

## The Harvest

### John 4:27-42

27 Just then his disciples arrived, and they were amazed that he was talking with a woman. Yet no one said, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?"

28 Then the woman left her water jar, went into town, and told the people, 29 "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" 30 They left the town and made their way to him.

31 In the meantime the disciples kept urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."

32 But he said, "I have food to eat that you don't know about."

33 The disciples said to one another, "Could someone have brought him something to eat?"

34 "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work," Jesus told them. 35 "Don't you say, 'There are still four more months, and then comes the harvest'? Listen to what I'm telling you: Open[h] your eyes and look at the fields, because they are ready[i] for harvest. 36 The reaper is already receiving pay and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that the sower and reaper can rejoice together. 37 For in this case the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' 38 I sent you to reap what you didn't labor for; others have labored, and you have benefited from[j] their labor."

39 Now many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of what the woman said[k] when she testified, "He told me everything 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 Many more believed because of what he said.[l] 42 And they told the woman, "We no longer believe because of what you said, since we have heard for ourselves and know that this really is the Savior of the world." [m]

#### Notes:

##### Jesus as outlier (short review)

27 Just then his disciples arrived, and they were amazed that he was talking with a woman. Yet no one said, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?"

The rabbis taught that theological education, that is, instruction in the law, was for men alone. To teach women or girls not only was a waste of time, but a profaning of sacred things.

Here is Jesus talking to a Samaritan woman in public about spiritual things. Three strikes.

28 Then the woman left her water jar, went into town, and told the people,

Left jar. Many have pondered this. Probably haste. The detail suggests that John was present. Went into town. Before she was trying to avoid people, now she wants to tell them.

V30: Could this be the Messiah?"

Everyone is looking for meaning in life. And too often we write people off because of their lifestyle or socio-economic group or their religion or because "we know them."

v40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.

Samaritans asked Him to stay? Never write anyone off.

- Recent events with the Turners
  - At times icy
  - Previous conversations had left us with the impression they were disinterested/hostile to the gospel.
  - At the risk of alienation, Ginger brings the granddaughter to church
  - This opens a conversation. "Brooke can make the choice she wants to make." Coming to church next Sundays.

My food is to do the will of Him who sent me.

v6 and Jesus, worn out from his journey

v32 But he said, "I have food to eat that you don't know about."

33 The disciples said to one another, "Could someone have brought him something to eat?"

V34: "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work," Jesus told them.

Jesus was exhausted and hungry and now He's not. Have you ever had a time when you were involved in the work of God and didn't need physical things?

Ginger in Cameroon.

Cartagena

The fields are white: The process of evangelism:

She goes and tells people in town: Invitation

V29 "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?"

They come to Jesus: Experience/knowledge

30 They left the town and made their way to him.

They believe in Him.: becomes personal

42 And they told the woman, "We no longer believe because of what you said, since we have heard for ourselves and know that this really is the Savior of the world.

36 The reaper is already receiving pay and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that the sower and reaper can rejoice together. 37 For in this case the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' 38 I sent you to reap what you didn't labor for; others have labored, and you have benefited from[i] their labor."

- When we go on trips, frequently we are the harvesters. The people there did the planting and growing. We walk in and harvest.
  - Thailand in the park.
  - Thailand in the gas station
- Sometimes our job is to sow.
  - Woman at the house meeting

But it is always a chain of events. We have no idea where we are in that chain.