

Bible study – w/b Sunday 28th October 2018

John 4:27-42

Read John 4:27-42

Getting to grips with the passage:

There are two different conversations going on in this passage, one involves Jesus and the disciples, and the other involves Jesus and the Samaritan people.

1. Let's start with the disciples. Looking at v31-33. What do the disciples think is the most important thing for Jesus to do at this time and why?
2. Now let's compare that to Jesus' response in v34-38:
 - a) What is Jesus focused on instead?
 - b) Why is this more important? (You may like to recap what we've seen before in John about "eternal life", e.g. 3v36)

In the Old Testament, the prophets use the image of a harvest to describe God saving his people Israel in the final judgement (e.g. Isaiah 27:12-13). Jesus uses this picture to explain that his mission is to harvest people for eternal life (v36).

3. Who are the people Jesus is "harvesting" in this passage (see v30, v35, v41) and why would that have been surprising to Jesus' Jewish disciples?
4. The main point of the passage is the end of v42, Jesus "really is the Saviour of the world." He is saving people from all nations, including the Samaritans! What do v39-42 teach us about how Jesus gathers the people of the world for eternal life?

Applying the message for today:

5. Our world has many needs of many different kinds and it's a good thing to help others in all sorts of ways. How should Jesus' priority for the world shape our overall priorities when it comes to helping others?
6. Both the Samaritan woman's testimony and the words of Jesus are vital in the people of Sychar being saved for eternal life.
 - a) How has God used his word and the testimony of others in your life?
 - b) How might God use you to bring eternal life to others?