



Small Group Curriculum

Topic: **GOD'S MASTERPIECE**

Ephesians 2:10 (NLT) For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago.

God's masterpiece of our lives is like a mosaic. A mosaic is a collection of small broken pieces of coloured glass, stone and other materials and arranging them into a recognisable pattern.

The Samaritan Woman

John 4:5-7 (NIV) So He came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6: Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as He was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. 7: When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?"

This was uncommon for Jews to speak to Samaritan's, as Samaritans were part Jew and part Gentile, and greatly disliked by both.

Why was this woman alone at the well?

(vs 16-18) reveals she had been married 5 times and is currently living in a sinful relationship with her boyfriend.

She avoided coming to the well with the other women because of her shame and feeling rejected by her community.

Why did Jesus approach this woman?

Jesus intentionally looked beyond her broken life to reach out to her.

Jesus was purposeful and intentional in crossing the cultural, social and religious boundaries to engage with sinners with His message of faith, hope and love.

There is one distinctive characteristic of Jesus' ministry. It's His incredible ability to bring good news to poor souls and remove barriers to social status.

Psalm 147:3 (NCV) He heals the broken-hearted and bandages their wounds.

As a church we must continue to align ourselves with the ministry of Jesus!

People knew Jesus saw beyond their label.

- Jesus responds to peoples need of acceptance and forgiveness.
- Jesus is in the habit of putting broken pieces back together.
- Jesus makes something completely new and different from the old version.

Jesus makes a mosaic out of each of us.

- He does not make our past disappear.
- He does not remove the words and actions of others from our memory.
- He does not make us perfect or sinless when His healing is done in us.
- Even when we are broken, He sees beauty in our brokenness, and calls us "good".
- Jesus makes our brokenness beautiful. He makes us into a testimony.
- Jesus alone meets our need to be accepted and forgiven.

Jesus is the living water that we need.

- We can bank on the fact that His well will never run dry (*Psalm 37:4*).
- He is the unending source of our peace, joy, love, self-control, truth, hope, and satisfaction (*Galatians 5:22-23*).
- Abundant life can only be found in Him (*John 10:10*).

Jesus is not deterred by our sin.

- The woman perceived Jesus as a prophet because He gently called out her sin and "told me everything I ever did" (*John 4:29*).
- Jesus is sovereign and sees the sin within our hearts (*1 Timothy 5:15*).
- He knows our desires, and yet He still pursues us and loves us (*Romans 3:23*).
- He is not surprised by our evil desires, but rather He seeks to reconcile us to the Father in spite of them (*Hebrews 7:25*).

Colossians 1:19-20 (TLB) *For God wanted all of Himself to be in His Son. ²⁰ It was through what His Son did that God cleared a path for everything to come to Him - all things in heaven and on earth - for Christ's death on the cross has made peace with God for all by His blood.*

Romans 5:8 (NIV) *God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

Group Discussion

1. What questions or comments do you have that you would like to be discussed in your Connect Group in regard to the teaching notes or the video teaching?

Write your questions and/or comments below so you can present to your group when you meet.

Group Prayer / Needs

1. Are there any prayer requests from group members that can be prayed for before closing?
2. Are there any needs that the group can help each other with? (*Discuss*)