

## Missional Living Wheel: Conversation

### The Win

Since we are now looking at our earthly relationships from either an Experience Community or an Expand Mission perspective, we should be more intentional about how we invest in each of these groups of people. This means there are people in our lives waiting to hear more about Jesus. How do we get into those relationships or, maybe more importantly, into those conversations? This wheel helps break down relational and conversational barriers that typically stand in the way of people sharing the Good News.

### Celebrate Faith Steps

Share the steps I have taken this week to explore faith or to help others explore faith.

### Read the Passage to Determine What God Is Saying

**Read John 4:4-9, 16-26, 28-30, 39-42 (pages 580-581).**

<sup>4</sup>He had to travel through Samaria;<sup>5</sup>so he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar near the property that Jacob had given his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, worn out from his journey, sat down at the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup>A woman of Samaria came to draw water.

"Give me a drink," Jesus said to her, <sup>8</sup>because his disciples had gone into town to buy food.

<sup>9</sup>"How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" she asked him. For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.

<sup>16</sup>"Go call your husband," he told her, "and come back here."

<sup>17</sup>"I don't have a husband," she answered.

"You have correctly said, 'I don't have a husband,' " Jesus said. <sup>18</sup>"For you've had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true."

<sup>19</sup>"Sir," the woman replied, "I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem."

<sup>21</sup>Jesus told her, "Believe me, woman, an hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You Samaritans worship what you do not know. We worship what we do know, because salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But an hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and in truth. Yes, the Father wants such people to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and in truth."

<sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

<sup>26</sup>Jesus told her, "I, the one speaking to you, am he."

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

<sup>39</sup> Now many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of what the woman said when she testified, "He told me everything I ever did." <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup> Many more believed because of what he said. <sup>42</sup> 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."

## **Retell the Passage to Highlight What God Is Saying**

Q1 – According to verses 4 to 6, what was Jesus' day like before he met a woman at the well?

Q2 – What did Jesus ask the woman for in verse 7?

Q3 – The woman responded with surprise at Jesus' request because of the animosity between the Jews and Samaritans. What did the woman say in verse 9 that affirmed the cultural situation?

Q4 – Where did Jesus take the conversation in verses 16 to 18?

Q5 – After talking about her family, how did the conversation begin to shift in verse 20?

Q6 – According to verse 25, who did the woman say would explain everything (spiritually) to them?

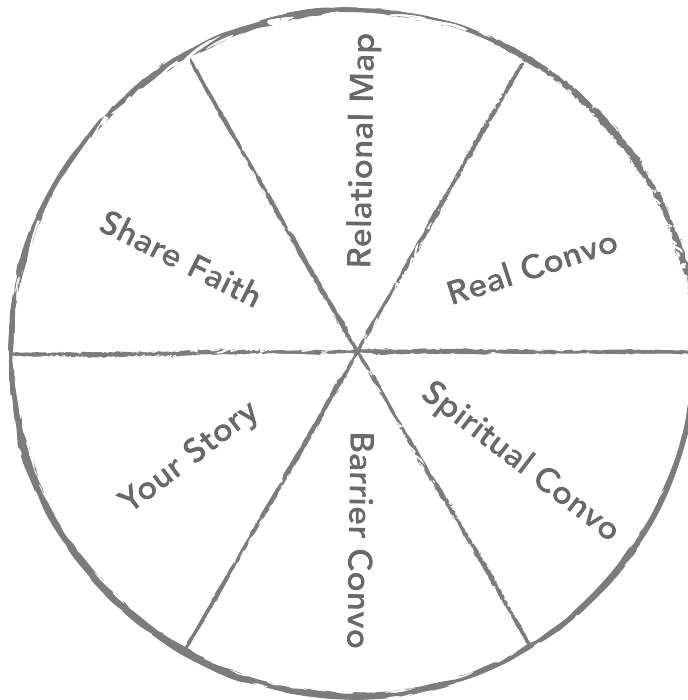
Q7 – How did Jesus respond to the woman's statement about the Messiah in verse 26?

Q8 – According to verses 28 to 30, what happened after Jesus revealed that he was the Messiah?

Q9 – In verses 39 to 42, why did the woman's friends first begin to believe in Jesus? By the time they had explored for themselves, what had changed about their belief in Jesus?

## Relate the Passage to Determine What I Should Do about It

### THE MISSIONAL LIVING WHEEL



We use a shape called the **Missional Living Wheel** to help describe the relational process by which we begin to share God’s loving message of reconciliation with those whom God has placed in our sphere of influence. Next on the wheel, we move from building our Relationship Map to actual conversations with the people on our map. We have labeled these conversations as Real Conversations, Spiritual Conversations, and Barrier Conversations. In the questions below, refer to John 4 to address the real struggles in the process of sharing our faith with others.

- Q1 – Have you ever had a ministry opportunity arise at a time when you weren’t ready, when you’d had a bad day, or when you felt tired? Under those circumstances, what might our typical first response be?**
- Q2 – What might be some cultural issues we could face as we attempt to share the message of Jesus with people around us? How can we prepare to overcome social issues we might encounter?**
- Q3 – Jesus used a drink of water as a simple way to bridge into a conversation; what are some simple ways we can begin conversations with people?**

**Q4 – Jesus moved the conversation to the woman's family. People usually like to talk about what is important to them. How can you direct the conversation to find out what's important to people?**

**We use a tool, the Explore Faith Study, to help people find easy ways to begin real conversations.**

### **Background**

- Where are you from?
- Where did you grow up?
- How big is your family?
- Are you still in contact with friends from your childhood?
- What was your family life like?
- What is your best childhood memory?

### **Education / Career**

- Where did you go to school?
- What did you study?
- What was your most valuable educational experience?
- What do you do for a living?
- What has been your favorite job? Least favorite?
- If you could do anything regardless of pay, what would it be?
- What has been the biggest obstacle you have had to overcome in your career?

### **MARRIAGE / RELATIONSHIP**

- Are you in a relationship?
- How did you meet?
- How long have you been married or in a relationship?
- Do you ever picture yourself being married?

**Q5 – Jesus’ conversation then moved toward spiritual things. How do you turn a conversation from real/personal things to spiritual things?**

**Again, we use a tool, the Explore Faith Study, to help people find easy ways to begin spiritual conversations.**

### **Spiritual Experiences**

- When you were a child, what was the level of spiritual interest in your home?
- What kind of religious background do you have?
- What has been the most positive spiritual experience that you’ve had? Most negative?

### **God /Jesus Ideas**

- What do you believe our purpose is?
- Do you believe there is a God? If so, who do you think God is?
- What is your opinion of life after death?
- Who do you think Jesus is?

### **Heaven / Spiritual Ideas**

- If there is a heaven, what do you think it would take to get there?
- Would you mind sharing your spiritual beliefs?
- How did you form these beliefs?

**Q6 – Jesus had to deal with the barrier of the Samaritans’ belief that they had the proper place to worship. What are some possible barriers we might face when helping people explore faith?**

**In our Explore Faith Study, we give help in finding proper resources to lead people to find answers to their individual questions or barriers to belief in Jesus.**

### **God as Creator / God’s Existence**

- [answersingenesis.org/creation](https://answersingenesis.org/creation)
- [answersingenesis.org/evolution](https://answersingenesis.org/evolution)
- [answersingenesis.org/science](https://answersingenesis.org/science)
- [answersingenesis.org/god](https://answersingenesis.org/god)
- [reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles/existence-and-nature-of-god](https://reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles/existence-and-nature-of-god)
- [reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles/science-and-theology](https://reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles/science-and-theology)

### **The Bible**

- [answersingenesis.org/bible](https://answersingenesis.org/bible)
- [answersingenesis.org/bible-questions](https://answersingenesis.org/bible-questions)

### **Jesus**

- [answersingenesis.org/jesus-christ](https://answersingenesis.org/jesus-christ)
- [www.reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles/jesus-of-nazareth](https://www.reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles/jesus-of-nazareth)

### **Christianity & Jesus Being the Only Way to Heaven**

- [answersingenesis.org/christianity](https://answersingenesis.org/christianity)
- [answersingenesis.org/jesus-christ](https://answersingenesis.org/jesus-christ)
- [answersingenesis.org/gospel](https://answersingenesis.org/gospel)
- [reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles/christianity-and-other-faiths](https://reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles/christianity-and-other-faiths)

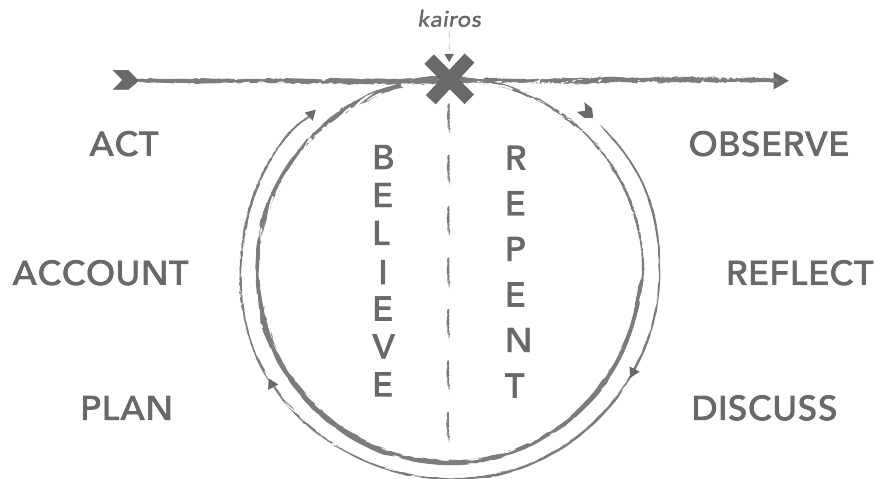
### **Tragedy & Suffering / Doubts**

- [answersingenesis.org/suffering](https://answersingenesis.org/suffering)
- [answersingenesis.org/what-does-god-want-from-me](https://answersingenesis.org/what-does-god-want-from-me)
- [reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles/practical-issues](https://reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles/practical-issues)

**Q7 – God used the woman's journey in exploring faith to impact her whole village. How can God use your journey or the journeys of the individuals that you begin to invest in?**

## KAIROS MOMENT

- Take a moment and go back over what you learned from John 4 and then review the different types of conversations. Write down what stands out to you. How is God beginning to direct your heart?
- Walk through the Kairos Circle with what you are learning about yourself as you think about the above passage and this step on the Missional Living Wheel.
- What is God saying to you, and what steps are you going to take this week to engage people on your relationship map in different conversations?



## CHALLENGE and PRAY

### EXPLORE FAITH

Use the EXPLORE THE BIBLE FOR YOURSELF guide to help you pinpoint Kairos moments in your life and come willing to share next week.

### EXPERIENCE COMMUNITY

Pray for the people in your group and communicate with them this week.

### EXPAND MISSION

Focus on taking steps with someone from your Relationship Map and begin engaging them in intentional conversations.

### GROUP PRAYER REQUESTS: