

Firestarter: John

Scripture: John 4:27-54

Before you read

1. Gather a pen, paper, and highlighters (for marking in your Bible).
2. Pray, asking God for wisdom and understanding of the word you are about to read.
3. Read the section more than one time.
 - First, read to understand.
 - Second, read to notice.
 - Third, read for questions. Record your questions as you read and see if you can answer them. Then Choose 3 questions from the **observation** section to answer.
 - Fourth, mark the disciple's **reactions** to Jesus' words.

READ: John 4:27-54

OBSERVATION:

Why were Jesus' disciples surprised to find Him talking to the woman? (See 4:27 note.)

What did Jesus mean when He said, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about"?

How does the food that Jesus has to eat relate to "living water"?

What did Jesus mean when He said that the fields are ripe for harvest?

What does it mean that "one plants and another harvests"?

What happened because of the Samaritan woman's testimony about Jesus (v. 39)?

What can we (followers of Jesus) learn from her example?

What are "miraculous signs and wonders" as described in the Bible, and what is their purpose? (See 4:48 note.)

APPLICATION:

How often do you participate in conversations about spiritual things? Can you relate to people who are different from you? Do you bring up the good things God has done in your life? Consider these questions if you hope to influence others to follow Jesus. You don't have to be outgoing to

reach people for Christ, but you must be willing to take the initiative and step out of your comfort zone. As you trust God, He will guide your words.

How can you make an eternal impact on others?

When God allows you to influence others for Him, what should your attitude be and why? (See 4:36 note.)

Why should you not become discouraged if you don't see immediate results from your spiritual work?

In what ways might you harvest the spiritual benefits of others' hard work (v. 38)?

When believing God for a miracle, what should be the focus of your faith?

ACTION Step: Reach out to someone you might not typically associate with and start a conversation. Focus on developing a friendship and trust God to help you influence this person for Him.

Consider starting or becoming part of a Bible or prayer group at school or work. If you're already involved in a group, encourage the members to talk more openly with others about the good things God has done.

PRAY:

As you pray today, ask Jesus to give you an eagerness to spread His message and to tell others what He's done for you.