

MAIN POINT

Once we understand the mission of Jesus and begin to act on it, we must stay focused. We do this by keeping Jesus as our message and our motivation.

INTRODUCTION

Think of a time you lost sight of a goal and began to pursue something outside of your original target. How did this affect the success of your mission? Why is it important to keep focused on the goal or purpose of the mission?

Once we begin moving toward a goal, it's easy to lose sight of the purpose of our pursuit. The journey toward a goal is often riddled with challenges and obstacles to overcome. If we are not focused, we may begin to doubt that the goal is worth pursuing and give in to the challenges we face. As followers of Christ, we must keep Jesus as the focus of our mission, otherwise we will inevitably fail in our own strength. Yet with Jesus as the source of our strength, all of life can be used for His purposes.

DISCUSSION

> READ JOHN 4:7-26.

Why did Jesus speak to the woman at the well? Why did that surprise her?

What people in our community would be surprised if you spoke to them? Why?

The Samaritan woman and Jesus had two different ideas about "living water." What were they?

Why was the living water Jesus described attractive to the woman?

How did Jesus intentionally engage the woman who was an outcast? How do you think you would engage someone in a similar situation?

What was Jesus' mission in engaging this woman in conversation?

What things are most likely to keep you from having similar conversations? How can you be better prepared for such intentional conversations?

APPLICATION

How can we be more intentional in the way we reach people who do not typically go to church? What is something our group can do this week to intentionally meet a need in the name of Jesus?