

WEEK 3 - ISOLATION

OVERVIEW

Along with being created to be in relationship with our Creator, we were also created to be in relationship with one another. Yet again, however, the rebellion of humanity against God's intentions has led us into places of deep isolation. This is especially true today, when loneliness is epidemic.

In the famous story of the woman at the well, Jesus plows through social protocols to show love to an isolated Samaritan woman. Not only does he reconnect her with her community; he calls her to a greater purpose and reminds her of the dignity she has as a child of God. To those of us who are isolated, this story is a reminder that we, image-bearers of God, are more than worthy of love. To Grace Church as a whole, this story is an intense challenge to follow in Jesus' footsteps by calling out the image of God in others and drawing them out of isolation and into community.

If you only knew the gift God has for you and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water.

John 4:10

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Describe the broken place of isolation. What does isolation feel like?
- 2. Why do you think people are lonely?
- 3. Read John 4:1-15.
 - a. Is the woman suffering from isolation? How do we know?
 - b. How is Jesus being intentional with the woman?
- 4. Read John 4:16-26. How does Jesus see her for who she is and love her anyway?
- 5. Read John 4:39-42. In what ways did Jesus heal the woman's isolation?
- 6. How could a "nurturer", like Jesus, help to heal the broken place of isolation today?
- 7. Amy challenged us to not hoard our living water. What does that mean?
- 8. Where in your life might you find people who are experiencing isolation?
- 9. If you are isolated, where might you find community?