



# He Gets Us.

## JESUS WAS MISUNDERSTOOD TOO

2023-01-22

### Participant Notes

#### **OVERVIEW:**

Welcome back to our series, “He Gets Us”! Jesus gets our lives because he was human too. In this series we are exploring how Jesus knows what we’re going through. He cares and he is able to help you as you trust in him. Our topic this week is, “Jesus was misunderstood too.” Jesus was perceived by many in his day as a rebel and a revolutionary, particularly by the religious leaders and the Roman Empire. His invitation to all people to repent and believe the Good News of the Kingdom of God was radical in its inclusion of everyone. Jesus’ radical inclusion is good news for us today. Jesus gets us when we feel rejected. Regardless of how you’ve been misunderstood by others, Jesus loves you and invites you into relationship with Him. Bringing this Good News to our world today means serving and loving others with the same kind of radical inclusion that Jesus did in His day.

#### **ICEBREAKER:** I Was Part of the Club!

When I was about 8 years old my mom and dad got me involved in a group call the “Cub Scouts”. This program was a place for younger boys to experience what it would be like to be part of the Boy Scouts. I remember my Cubs shirt with the badges sewn on that I had earned. This, along with my neckerchief and leather slide with a wolf’s head inscribed on it really made me feel like I was part of the club! What team or club have you been involved in as a kid or teen? How did that experience make you feel included, or perhaps excluded? Share your story with the group!

## STUDY:

Jesus knows what it's like to be misunderstood and rejected. He gets us when we experience these things. He reaches out to our world with radical, inclusive love. Jesus reaches out the marginalized. He sees the outcast. He identifies with the forgotten. He calls the sinner to service. For today's study, we'll see how Jesus' radical inclusion gets lived out in a conversation He has with a woman by a well.

### **READ** John 4:1-29 Jesus Talks With a Samaritan Woman

1. **READ** vs. 1 - 6 again.

- What do you notice here about how Jesus goes out of his way to talk with this woman?

2. **READ** vs. 7-9 again.

- What do you see here about the rejection this Samaritan woman would have experienced?

- How do you relate to/identify with the Samaritan woman?

3. **READ** vs. 10-15 again.

- What do you notice about how Jesus describes living water?

- How does the Samaritan woman misunderstand Jesus' offer?

4. **READ** vs. 16-18 again.

- Why do you think Jesus broached the subject of her husband?

5. **READ** vs. 19-26 again.

- How does the Samaritan woman respond to Jesus' request about her husband?

6. **READ** vs. 21-24 again.

- In these verses, Jesus says that true worshipers must worship God "in spirit and in truth". What does He mean by this?

7. **READ** vs. 25-26 again.

- Why do you think Jesus chose this moment to reveal who He is?

8. **READ** vs. 27

- Why would the disciples have reacted as they did?

- How do you relate to the disciples reaction? What radical inclusion might surprise you?

9. **BEING RADICALLY INCLUSIVE LIKE JESUS**

In our world that is becoming increasingly divided and moving away from God, we need to show God's radical love. Today we can show God's love by being radically inclusive like Jesus is. Here are some questions to get you thinking about what that might look like.

i) Do you think your faith is radical? Why or why not?

ii) Do you think Christians are misunderstood? Can you give an example?

iii) Are you willing to be misunderstood in order to display grace and mercy to someone else? What would that look like?

10. Watch this 7 minute scene of Jesus and the woman at the well:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ordhsDeAt60>

- How did this clip help you see Jesus' radical, inclusive love?

### **PRAY:**

"God, thank You for your radical, inclusive love. Thank You that, even though you know all about my shortcomings and my sin, You fully love me and accept me. Dear Father, please help me to love others in the same way You love me. In our world where so many feel rejected and misunderstood, help me to show your unconditional grace. Thank You for our LifeGroup where we can learn together to be more like your Son. Please bless each one today. We ask these things in the Name of your Son, Jesus. AMEN."