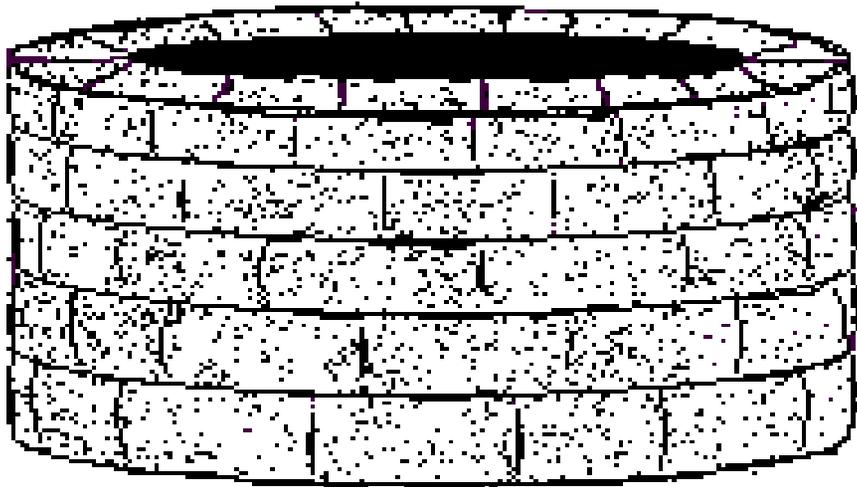


responded to Jesus when we did not expect it?" (Let the people give examples.)

Draw a Picture of a well. Let the children copy it. They can show their pictures to the adults at the next worship time and explain it. It illustrates how God wants us always to be ready to offer His living water to anyone who is willing to receive it.



Ancient stone well

Memorize Colossians 4:3.

Recite Poetry: Let four children each recite one of the four verses in Psalm 19:1-4. They might recite this for the adults, also.

Prayer: Lord, we are glad that we can worship you wherever we are. You love people of all languages and cultures. Thank you that you have sent us to take the good news to people of all nations. Help us remember that people all around us are ready to respond to your good news. Help us to be faithful to tell them.

A Woman Meets Jesus at a Well

Teach Children Always to Be Ready to Witness

Choose from among these learning activities for children, those that best fit their needs and local customs.

The Samaritan woman

Let an older child or teacher read or tell the story of the Samaritan woman from John 4:4-42. It shows how Jesus was ready to tell to every person whom he met the good news of God's love, forgiveness, and eternal life.



If convenient, let the children copy or color this picture.

Questions. After relating the story, ask these questions. *[An answer appears after each question.]*

- What was Jesus doing at the well? *[See verse 6]*

- Why was the woman surprised when Jesus asked for a drink? [See verse 9]
- What kind of water did Jesus offer to give to the woman? [See verse 14]
- Is there a special place where people must worship God? [See verses 21 and 24]
- Who did Jesus say that he was? [See verse 26]
- What does Jesus mean when he says that the fields are ripe for harvest? [Answer: Many people are ready to respond to the good news of Jesus, but we must tell it to them first.]

Dramatize parts of the story. Arrange with the leader of the congregational worship to present this brief drama. Use your time with the children to prepare the drama. You do not have to use all the parts.

- Let **older children** or adults portray:
Narrator. Summarizes the story and helps the children to remember what to say.
Jesus sitting next to something representing a well.
Samaritan Woman carrying a jug.

Let **younger children** portray:
Disciples carrying food.
Samaritans.

Jesus: Sit next to the 'well.'

Narrator: Tell the first part of the story from John 4:1-26. Say, "Hear what the disciples say."

Disciples: "Jesus, you are tired. The trip has been long. Stay here by the well and rest. We shall go into the Samaritan village and get food."

Samaritan Woman: Walk toward Jesus carrying the jug.

Jesus: "Please give me some water."

Samaritan Woman: Act surprised. Say, "You are a Jew. Why do you ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?"

Jesus: "I can give to you living water that will keep you from ever being thirsty again."

Samaritan Woman: Act surprised. Say, "How can you do that?"

Jesus: "I am the Messiah, the chosen one of God."

Samaritan Woman: (Slowly walk away from the well.)

Narrator: Tell the second part of story from John 4:27-38. Say, "Hear what the disciples say."

Disciples: "Look! Who is that woman with Jesus? She left her jar and is going back to the village! She looks excited! Here, Jesus, have some food."

Jesus: "I have a different kind of food. My food is to help people know God. Always be ready to tell people the good news."

Narrator: Tell the third part of the story (John 4:39-42) and says, "Hear what the Samaritan woman says."

Samaritan Woman: Say to the Samaritans, who are standing to one side, "Come see this man. He told me everything I ever did. Could he be God's chosen one?"

Samaritans: "Let's go see this man." "We will believe in Him, too."

Narrator: Thank everyone who helped with the drama.

If the children dramatize this story for the adults, then let them also ask the adults the same questions that are listed above. The Narrator might also ask, "What are other examples of people who have