

INFECTIOUS

2. Experienced

Start off with feedback from Sunday's message. What did those that were there - or those that have caught up online - take away from it? What encouraged them, what informed them and what challenged them?

Read John 4.1-42

28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, **29** 'Come, see a man who told me everything I've ever done. Could this be the Messiah?' **30** They came out of the town and made their way towards him.

- What's your experience been of sharing your story of faith with others? What's been challenging and difficult? What's been encouraging?
- Reading through this whole (long) story, what impresses you most about the way Jesus engages with this woman? Does anything surprise you about Jesus' approach? If you could take just one thing that Jesus does well here and put it into practice in your own life, what would it be?
- v35. 'I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.' Once again, Jesus uses the image of a ripe harvest field, even though a village full of hostile Samaritans would be the last place you'd expect a positive response. Do we need to 'open our eyes and look' at those around us in a fresh way - in the way that Jesus looks at them?
- Alex gave 5 Top Tips. Go through each of them in turn and discuss how they apply to you and how you can put them into practice in the next few days and weeks: Take a Risk; Tailor your Story; Prepare your Story, Think it Through; Be Gentle & Respectful.

Big Idea: Infectious people take risks and tell their stories.

Break down into twos and threes and ask God once again to send out workers into the harvest field. Pray for a fresh sense of vision for a ripe harvest, that God would open our eyes to see people as He sees them.

Talk about the two or three people that you're praying for and that you want to be able to share your story with. Pray for courage, confidence and clarity. Pray for insight from God to help you get through to them and say the right things in the right way, with gentleness and respect.