

**Subject: *Real Satisfaction***

**Scripture: *John 4:27-42***

What gives you the most satisfaction in life? I saw on Facebook that one of our young children was with his family at Golden Corral and said: "I just love Golden Corral, it fills the cracks of the heart." Just as good food satisfies the body, the Lord satisfies the soul. **Psalm 34:8** *O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.*

The story is well known how a shoe salesman named Edward Kimball led a young man to Christ. That man was D. L. Moody. Edward Kimball struck a match and lit a fire that in time became a raging soul-winning fire that touched two continents for Christ. John 4 tells such a story. It tells about a woman who came to Christ and then led many people in her hometown to Christ and salvation. All people are just like this woman, they are looking for satisfaction in things that never can satisfy. In this story we find the keys to real satisfaction:

### **1. THERE IS SATISFACTION IN KNOWING CHRIST (vs. 27-28)**

As the Lord would have it in His perfect timing, His disciples came to the well just as He was finishing His conversation with the Samaritan woman. They were amazed to find Jesus talking with her, but they did not ask the woman what she wanted and they did not ask Jesus why He was talking to her. They knew He must have had a good reason, and they were right.

In verse 28, the woman left her water pot because now she had her very own well springing up inside of her. She was saved and satisfied (see vs. 10, 13-14; 7:37-38). The Bible describes salvation in terms of food and drink that satisfy a person's deepest needs. **Isaiah 55:1-2** <sup>1</sup> *Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.* <sup>2</sup> *Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.* **Revelation 21:6** *And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.* The last invitation in the Bible is found in **Revelation 22:17** *And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.*

Nothing in this world can fully satisfy, but Christ offers eternal life and satisfaction that last forever. A dear evangelist friend, Walter St. Clair, when a waitress asked him what he wanted to drink, would tell her that he had a drink when He received Christ as Lord and Savior and that drink had lasted him ever since.

When we are saved we are like this woman, we exchange our water pot for a well. We exchange our weakness for His strength, our sin for His righteousness, our guilt for His grace, and our emptiness for His fullness. That is the satisfaction of knowing Christ as Lord and Savior.

### **2. THERE IS SATISFACTION IN TELLING OTHERS ABOUT CHRIST (vs. 29-30)**

This woman says to the men of her city: Come and see for yourself. This man knew everything about me. Is not this the Christ? Remember, this woman had a bad reputation in that city. She had been married to five men, and she was now living with another man. She was a shady lady. Why would they even listen her, let alone be persuaded to go and see

Christ on their own? God prepared them to receive her testimony. Just like God prepared Nathanael in John 1. Philip told him about Jesus and said, “Come and see” (1:46), and he did.

Telling others about Christ is a little different now because He is not here physically among us as He was then. But we can still tell people that Jesus is the Christ, the Savior, and we can still invite them to come and see Him. Where can people find Christ today? In the Bible and in the church. ***John 5:39*** *Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.* The church is the body of Christ. He is found wherever and whenever the church meets. I love that song, “Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place, I can feel His mighty power and His grace.” It is our responsibility and privilege to tell others about Christ and invite them to come and meet Him.

### **3. THERE IS SATISFACTION IN DOING GOD’S WILL (vs. 31-34)**

The disciples were confused when Jesus told them He had food they didn’t know about. They wondered if anybody had brought Him something to eat. He was talking about something better than any meal. It was the satisfaction of doing His Father’s will and finishing His work. That’s what He lived for. ***John 6:38*** *For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.* ***John 9:4*** *I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.* ***John 17:4*** *I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.* ***John 19:30*** *When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.* When Jesus died on the cross for our sins He said: “Mission Accomplished” and bowed His head and died.

Paul felt the satisfaction of doing of God’s will. In the face of sure persecution and suffering he was warned not to go to Jerusalem, but this was his answer, ***Acts 20:24*** *But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.* Near the end of his life this was Paul’s testimony, ***2 Timothy 4:7*** *I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.* There is the deep satisfaction of knowing you have done God’s will for your life. Every Christian ought to live so that when the final days come, we will be able to say “I’m glad I did” instead of “I wish I had.”

### **4. THERE IS SATISFACTION IN WORKING IN THE HARVEST FIELDS (vs. 35-38)**

Working in the fields means working to share the Gospel and reach people for Christ. Because Jesus is God He knew the hearts of the Samaritans were ready for harvest. He knew the heart of Nicodemus, the heart of this Samaritan woman, the hearts of the Samaritans who came out to meet Him, and He knows our hearts. ***1 Samuel 16:7*** *But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.*

- **Working in the fields is urgent work (vs. 35)**

There is no time like now. The grain harvest may take four months, but the soul harvest is now ready. Jesus is the Lord of the harvest. ***Matthew 9:37-38*** <sup>37</sup> *Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few;* <sup>38</sup> *Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest.*

- Working in the fields is rewarding work (vs. 36)

***Psalms 126:5-6**<sup>5</sup> They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. <sup>6</sup> He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.*

- Working in the fields is team work (vs. 37-38)

Everything we do in reaching souls for Christ is sowing and reaping. Sometimes we sow and other times we reap. Sometimes others sow and we reap. Sometimes the harvest takes a long time and sometimes the harvest comes quickly. Only a short while ago, Jesus sowed the seed in this woman's heart, and then she sowed the seed in the hearts of the people, and now it was harvest time already! I learned some things about farming when we lived in West TN.

Farmers can plant and they can harvest, but only God can make something live and grow.

***1 Corinthians 3:6-8**<sup>6</sup> I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. <sup>7</sup> So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. <sup>8</sup> Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor.*

## **5. THERE IS SATISFACTION IN SEEING OTHERS BELIEVE IN CHRIST (vs. 39-42)**

Now we know why this chapter begins by stating that it was a divine necessity for Christ to go through Samaria (Jn. 4:4). Many believed on Jesus because of the woman's testimony, but many more believed on Him because of His words. They were convinced, just like she was, that Jesus is the Christ, the Savior of the world (found only in Jn. 4:42 and 1 Jn. 4:14). This woman not only had the satisfaction of knowing Christ and being saved, but she had the double satisfaction of seeing others come to Him and be saved.

Jesus didn't come to save the Jews only. He came to save people all over the world. John the Baptist made that clear, **John 1:29** *The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.* If Jesus is the Christ and the Savior of the world, then shouldn't the world know it? There are many places in the world today just like Samaria that don't know Jesus. They don't even know about Jesus. Would you believe if I told you there are thousands of people right here in Bristol and Blountville who don't know Jesus and some don't even know about Jesus? We need eyes to see the harvest fields. We need hearts to be concerned about people who need Christ.

*Every day they pass me by, I can see it in their eyes;  
Empty people filled with care, headed who knows where;  
On they go through private pain, living fear to fear;  
Laughter hides their silent cries, only Jesus hears.*

*People need the Lord, people need the Lord;  
At the end of broken dreams, He's the open door;  
People need the Lord, people need the Lord;  
When will realize that we must give our lives because people need the Lord.*

As I preach this message I have two main concerns: first of all, that everyone who hears will believe in Christ; and second, that every believer will care enough to tell others about Christ.