

THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

John 4:1-42

KIDS
3RD-6TH

NL

Key Verse:

“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?”

John 4:29

The Point:

Even outsiders have access to God’s abundant grace through Jesus Christ.

Making Connections:

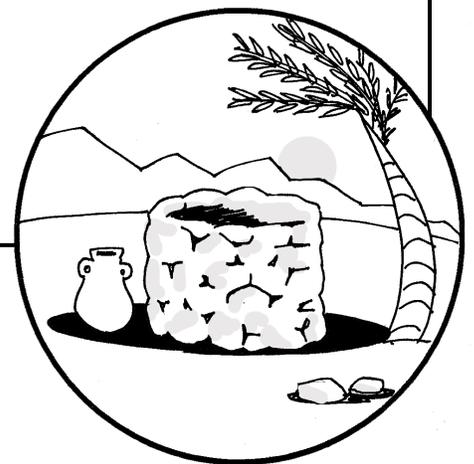
Invitation to Abundant Life

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Samaritans

Spiritual Practice:

Fellowship



BACKGROUND

Making Connections

Jesus and the woman at the well talk about “living water” that will quench thirst forever. Jesus reveals himself as the Messiah to the woman. This forever changes the Samaritan woman, and she testifies to others that Jesus is the Messiah, which in turn causes them to believe. Jesus continues to invite others into the abundant life that he gives.

Story Summary:

The Woman at the Well

Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at a well. In biblical times, wells provided more than just water to villages. Wells were also a place where people would gather and talk. It is while at the well that the Samaritan woman meets Jesus and discovers who he is. At the well, Jesus breaks social conventions by not only talking to a woman, but to a Samaritan.

As the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman progresses, we see several different conversations between Jesus and the woman. Each of these conversations reveals to the Samaritan woman a little more about Jesus, helping her see that Jesus is the Messiah and encourages her to testify to this revelation with others in her town.

The Point

Even outsiders have access to God’s abundant grace through Jesus Christ. In developing a relationship with the Samaritan woman, Jesus shows again that he is not concerned with someone’s reputation. The woman at the well has numerous strikes against her: she is a woman, she is a Samaritan, she has had many husbands, and she is living with a man who is not her husband. But Jesus welcomes her into relationship without judgment. This encounter results in her sharing the story of her amazing experience with others.

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Samaritans

The Samaritans are a religious and ethnic group mentioned in several parts of the Bible. The differences between the Samaritans and the Israelites led to a strong divide between the two groups that can be traced back to Old Testament times. The Jews considered the Samaritans unclean and refused to speak to them. The major difference between the two groups comes from the different views each group has on how to worship God.

The image of the Samaritan people introduces New Testament readers to powerful themes and ideas. In the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), a Samaritan man is the one who loves a neighbor who might not love him back. In today’s story, Jesus talks to a Samaritan woman, something that many other Jews would frown upon. Jesus shows us how to love one another, especially those who may be different than us and who we may see as enemies.

Spiritual Practice: Fellowship

Welcoming the stranger and the outcast and creating a place of fellowship for all people is one of the fundamental teachings of following Jesus. But sometimes, even Christians struggle to welcome “those” people into their churches. After all, “they” look different than “us.” They dress and act and smell differently. It is easy for us to go out and help people, but how do we react when they come to us?



Name: _____

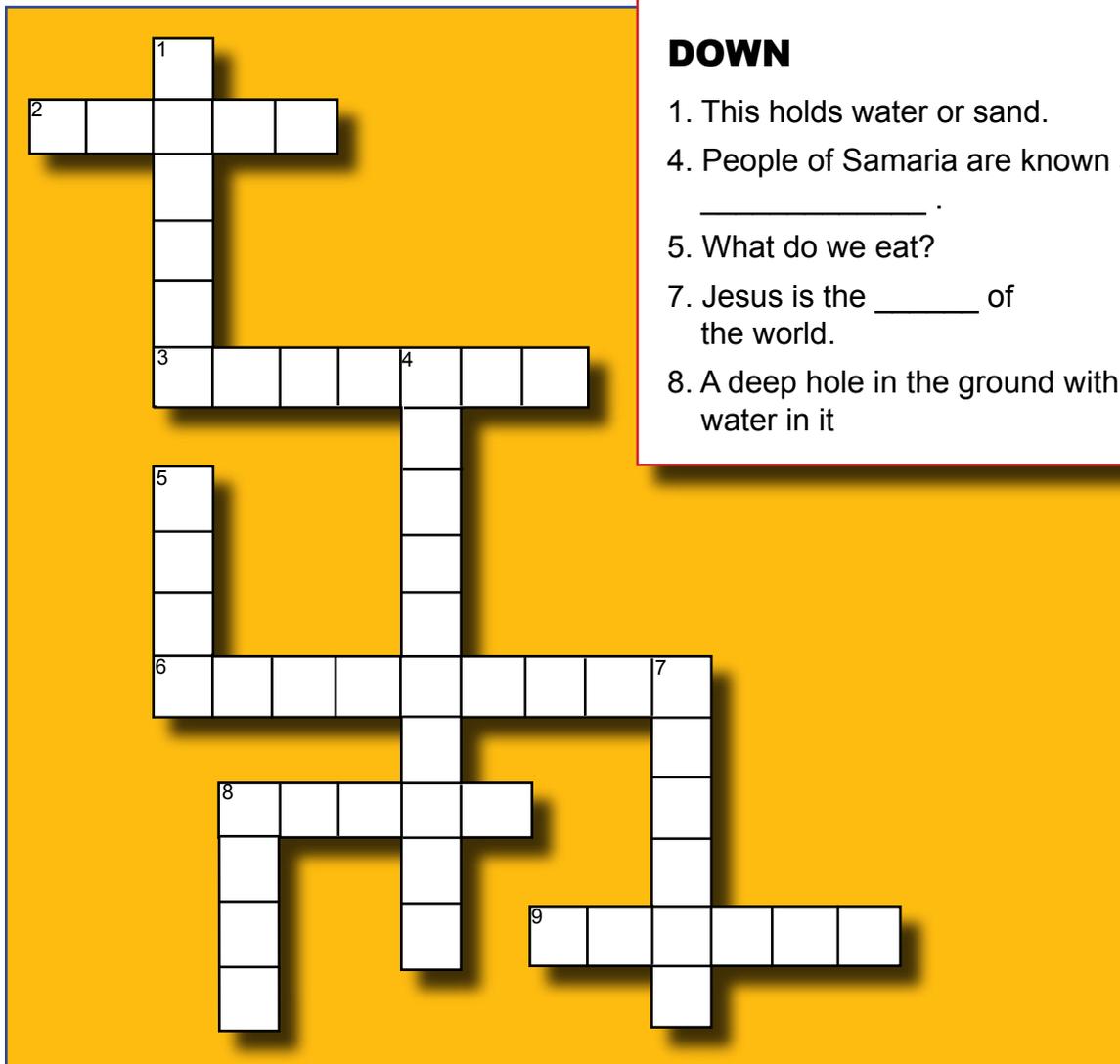
Date: _____

The Woman at the Well

U S X J G Y D P S J S V H H R Z A
T E T K N U R Q V O F Q U B I I K
L L O N A M O W R X E R S T Q V C
E P N I L X G R J F E U B R A R Y
Z I K R Z N J M U T S S A M B L E
S C X D Q H V K A E Y B N T D G E
G S R I Y F I W J X N V D U J Q N
K I W I T L G V F N Y R S L A T Q
G D A G M N Y B G A A E H A M H X
O K L K I P K Z L T O T S E V O L
Y A K V M I H Y O I I N M Q R V J
C B I R A O A T U R L I H H X O O
G L M M W W I S O A A W D E H D P
H U J O O S S R E M Y O R N K Q Y
L L E W X I S I E A N A T D U W O
R R F Q H F E H B S C S W I X H A
T E W M C Q M T L D Z B T P P S C

living water	winter vbs	disciples	samaritan
husbands	messiah	thirsty	drink
Jesus	woman	John	walk
care	well	love	

The Woman at the Well Crossword Puzzle

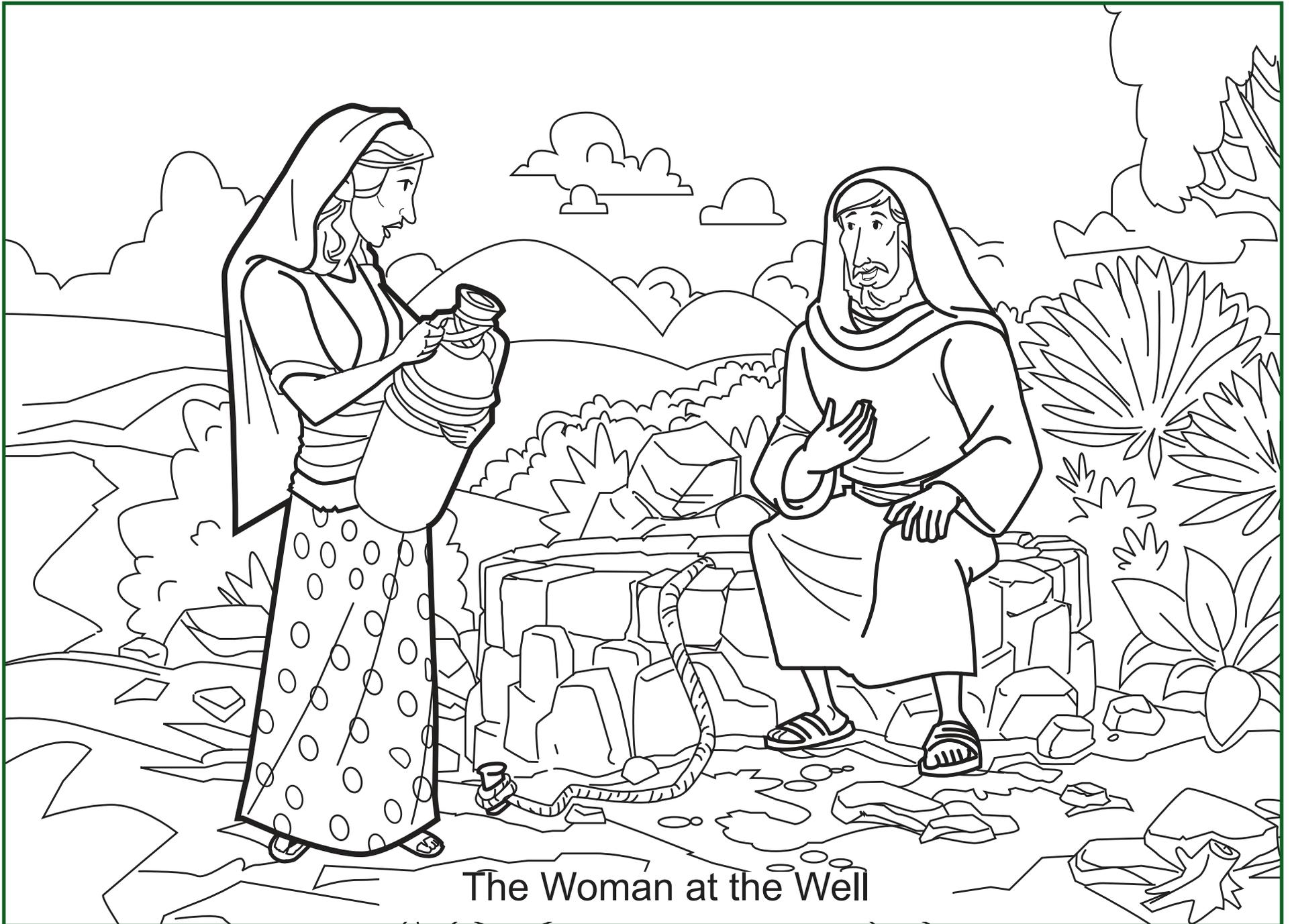


ACROSS

2. Jesus said that those who worship God must “must worship in spirit and _____.”
3. When we want something to drink, we are _____.
6. Jesus’ companions
8. Opposite of man
9. All _____ are important to Jesus.

DOWN

1. This holds water or sand.
4. People of Samaria are known as _____.
5. What do we eat?
7. Jesus is the _____ of the world.
8. A deep hole in the ground with water in it

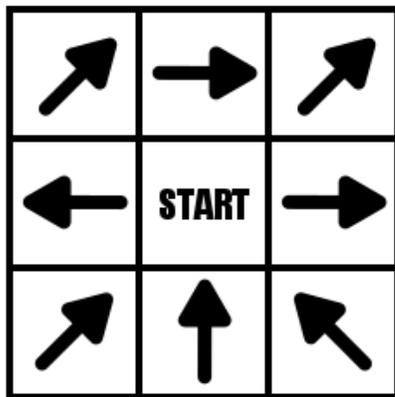


The Woman at the Well

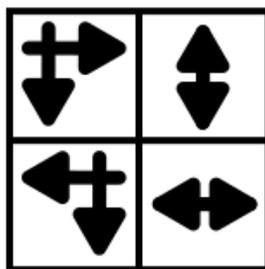
The Arrow Maze Book

Rules on solving an Arrow maze

You may move in any direction from the **START** grid



When you land on an arrow you must follow it in the direction shown, moving one grid. In the example to the left, any move from **START** that moves down will immediately return back to **START**.

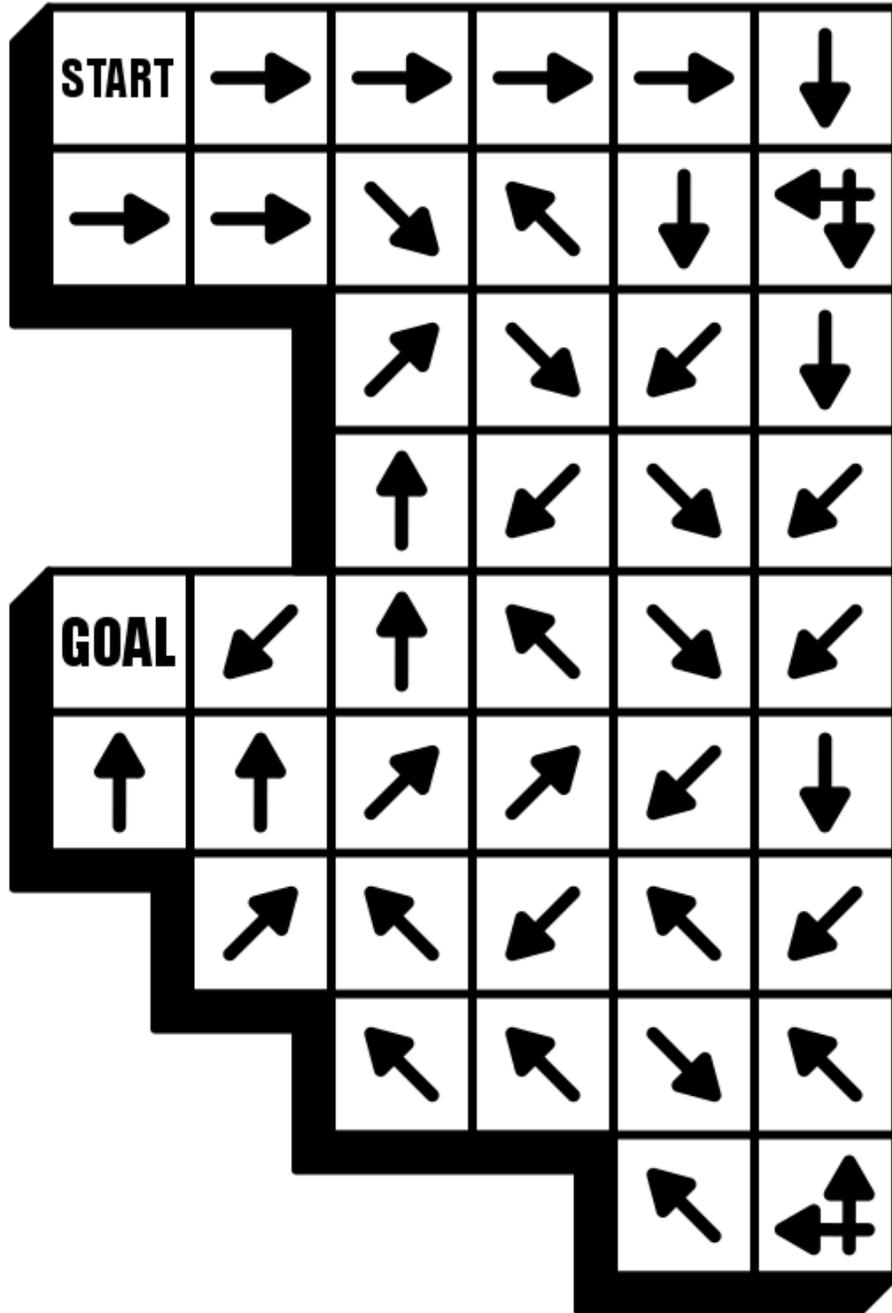


Some arrows allow a choice of direction like those to the left.

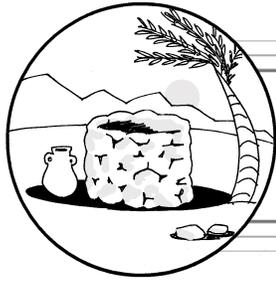
To solve the maze you must reach the grid marked **GOAL**.

GOAL

There are no dead ends in an Arrow Maze, but that doesn't mean you won't get lost!



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THE STORY @ HOME

KIDS
3RD-6TH

NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 4 (2025-2026)

Lesson #4-21
John 4:1-42

LAST WEEK

A Pharisee, Nicodemus, came to Jesus under the cover of darkness, asking questions and seeking understanding. As Jesus explained his ministry, the Pharisee became more confused (John 3:1-21).

THIS WEEK

Jesus encounters a Samaritan woman at a well. The ensuing conversation breaks several taboos, and brings the woman and her village to believe in Jesus (John 4:1-42).

STORY SUMMARY

The Woman at the Well

Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at a well. In biblical times, wells provided more than just water. Wells were also a place where people would gather and talk. It is while at the well that the Samaritan woman meets Jesus and discovers who he is. Jesus breaks social conventions by not only talking to a woman but to a Samaritan. The conversation with Jesus reveals more about him to the Samaritan woman. The woman sees that Jesus is the Messiah, and testifies to this revelation with others in her town.

PRACTICE: FELLOWSHIP

We grow in fellowship by participating in a faith community and watching how people help one another in times of difficulty. This week, think of ways that you can care for God's people as a family to experience and build fellowship.

NEXT WEEK

Jesus will perform two miracles, including one from a distance. These miracles show Jesus to be the Messiah (John 4:46-54 [5:1-18]).

THE POINT

Even outsiders have access to God's abundant grace through Jesus Christ.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Samaritans

The Samaritans were a religious and ethnic group mentioned in several parts of the Bible. The differences between the Samaritans and the Israelites led to a strong divide between the two groups that can be traced back to Old Testament times. The Jews considered the Samaritans unclean and refused to speak to them. In the Gospels, Jesus' interactions with Samaritan characters demonstrate God's radical welcome of all people. An example of this is the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), where a Samaritan man is the one who loves a neighbor who might not love him back. Jesus shows us how to love one another, especially those who may be different than us.

Family Discussions

Use the questions below—or any you have—to discuss this lesson’s Scripture reading with your family.

- † Did you find anything in this reading that was surprising?
- † What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- † What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God’s message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read John 4:1-26
Jesus encounters a Samaritan woman at a well. Say a prayer today for those who are lonely and ignored.
Monday—Read John 4:27-42
Many Samaritans come to believe. Talk about a personal experience you have had with God.
Tuesday—Read Luke 15:1-7
The parable of the lost sheep. Jesus tells this parable because Pharisees grumbled about Jesus welcoming people who they consider to be outsiders. Who can be considered outsiders now? Pray for them.
Wednesday—Read Luke 15:8-10
The parable of the lost coin. Draw or write out a scene of either the woman’s party or the angels rejoicing.
Thursday—Read Luke 15:11-32
The parable of the lost son. Sometimes, a story can become too familiar. How can you tell this story in a different setting or from a different character’s point of view to make it seem new again for you?
Friday—Read Luke 16:1-13
The parable of the dishonest manager. What do you think of this parable? Is Jesus praising the man’s dishonest actions? What do you think Jesus was trying to say to his disciples?
Saturday—Read John 4:43-45
Jesus returns to Galilee. Why do you think the Gospel writer wrote that “Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in the prophet’s own country”? Read a similar story in Luke 4:16-30.