

Jesus Knows

Scripture Reading — John 4:7-18

[Jesus] told her, "Go, call your husband and come back." "I have no husband," she replied." John 4:16-17 —

Even the most harmless small talk can poke into areas we might rather not talk about. When someone asks, "How are you?" what do you say if you feel rotten? Often you force a smile and say, "I'm fine. How are you?" Or what do you say if you're a construction worker who's been laid off for three months? When someone asks what you do for a living, you might just say, "Oh, I'm in construction."

If you're a Samaritan woman in Jesus' day and a Jewish stranger says to you, "Hey, I'd like to meet your husband," how do you answer? If you've been divorced five times and are now living with somebody else, you might simply say, "I don't have a husband." You don't feel like explaining. Why give a stranger all the details of your broken promises and shattered dreams?

But what if this stranger already knows your hurts, failures, and sins? Jesus knows every dark corner of your life, and yet he has not rejected you. Instead, he is still talking to you. When Jesus says he can quench your thirst and empower you to live forever, you begin to believe him. If he knows you so thoroughly and still cares about you, he just might be the deliverer you've been looking for. The Samaritan woman told her neighbors, "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" (John 4:29).

Prayer

Lord Jesus, with you we have no secrets. Thank you for probing our painful areas and cleansing us of our guilt. Refresh us with the living water of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

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