

# GREG'S NOTES

## A NEW BEGINNING TEACHING OUTLINES

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### SATISFACTION FOR THE SPIRITUALLY THIRSTY

John 4

Everyone is thirsty, spiritually speaking. In John 4, we see a picture of Jesus interacting with a woman who had a real spiritual thirst, deep down inside. Let's look at how Jesus dealt with that. There is no greater communicator than Jesus Christ. He gave us a template to use when sharing our faith with others.

#### PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES

1. **We have to go wherever people are.** We have to engage people. Sometimes Christians try to isolate themselves from nonbelievers. We are not supposed to isolate. We are to infiltrate.
2. **We have to care about the people we speak to.** It starts with a concern for lost people. Verse 4 says, "He needed to go through Samaria" (NKJV). No orthodox Jew would ever go through Samaria for any reason, but Jesus needed to go there because there was a woman in need, and He cared about her.
3. **We have to keep at it, even when we are tired.** Jesus was both tired and hungry, but that didn't stop Him from doing His Father's business.
4. **We need to use tact.** Jesus, the Master Evangelist, used tact, which is "skill and grace in dealing with others" and is something that many Christians seriously lack. Say the right thing, at the right time, in the right way. Be tactful!
5. **We must adapt to the situation.** Sometimes before a person can appreciate the Good News, they need to know the bad news. The bad news is that they are a sinner in need of a Savior. Acts 3:19 says, "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (NKJV).

#### RELEVANT REMINDERS

- Sharing the gospel is a dialogue, not a monologue. Start the conversation by listening. It is about winning souls, not arguments.
- Keep the main thing the main thing. When you evangelize, always bring it back to the main topic. Stay focused on what's important.
- Proclaim the truth and don't overcomplicate the gospel.

#### APPLICABLE ACTIONS

Don't give up praying for people and sharing the Good News. God can reach them. There are opportunities out there. If you will just be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit, you will find those opportunities. Just pray and say, "Lord, lead me. Show me where that opportunity is." There are people everywhere. It's our privilege to tell thirsty people where to find living water.