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**Reaching The Rest**  
**John 4:27-30**  
**January 15, 2017**

Many of us only speak to the same 10-15 people when we come to church every week. What would happen if you went up to someone you did not know in church and shared the love of Jesus Christ with them? Have you ever considered making it a point to introduce yourself to at least one new person each week?

We come to church every week and we pass by the rest of the city on our way to 3131 Lake Street. We pass by mothers that are mourning, fathers that are distressed, and children who are struggling only to gather with people who already know the Good News.

On the other hand, Jesus spent his time “reaching the rest” of the crowd rather than dealing with the important people, kings, prelates, etc. He went to people who were like sheep without a shepherd. In fact, some of us were, and are still lost, and yet Jesus reached out to us and saved us.

If the Lord had not reached out to us, we would not be saved. Therefore, we too are like “the rest of them.” We need to reach out to people beyond ourselves and share the transforming power of Jesus Christ.

In the text,

**1. Jesus Saw A Much Needed Opportunity**

On his way from Judea to Galilee, Jesus decides to go through Samaria, which was the shortest and most direct route. He did not take the customary route that most pious Jews took. Pious Jews would go east, cross the Jordan River, enter the region of Perea, then go north, re-cross the Jordan River, and wind up in Galilee. They would take this long and out of the way route to avoid Samaritan territory because Jews and Samaritans disliked each other. But Jesus went through Samaria because He knew He would meet *the woman at the well* when he arrived. Jesus went to a place where no respected Jewish teacher would have gone and talked to a person they would not have talked to.

At the well, Jesus engages the woman in conversation, pointed out her mistakes, and showed her future opportunities for success. This was a unique opportunity. We are faced daily with these same opportunities to share the gospel. No matter how lost or wayward someone may be, there is still the image of God in them.

Instead of talking about how bad the world is, we should do what Jesus did and go out on a limb and share the Good News of the gospel to the folk who think they don't need it.

### **1. Jesus Saw Unfortunate Opponents**

The greatest opposition Jesus received while at the well in Samaria was from His disciples. The greatest opposition we all receive when trying to do the will of God is from Church folk.

It's time out for praying for folk to be saved and then sit back and watch other church folk make it hard for them to be saved.

### **1. Jesus Saw An Unbelievable Transformation**

Jesus had to confront the woman at the well before he could transform her. The woman dropped her pot, ran into the city, and told the men to come see a man.

Regardless of who she was, after being confronted by Jesus, the woman at the well no longer had a need for or interest in the men of Samaria. In fact, she said, "Come see a man who told me everything I ever did." The Lord can change us from the inside out.

### **1. Jesus Sees An Unrestrained Evangelist**

The woman does not let her transformation go to waste. She was not restrained because of her status as a woman and her sorted past. She realized that after meeting Jesus, her future would be greater than her past.

When you are an unrestrained evangelist, people will come to see what you are taking about. People will come to hear the Good News about what you have experienced in Jesus Christ.

To give a testimony requires passion. If we are going to reach lost souls for Jesus Christ, we cannot be afraid to tell our story to others. When the opportunity presents itself, we must tell folk to come see a man who transformed my life. We cannot be ashamed to tell the world to come see a man.