



SENT
SENT TO WITNESS | JOHN 4:27-41
Pastor Mark Owens

Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" ²⁸ So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, ²⁹ "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" ³⁰ They went out of the town and were coming to him. ³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." ³² But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." ³³ So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him something to eat?" ³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. ³⁵ Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. ³⁶ Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷ For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." ³⁹ Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world. – John 4:27-42

Faithful witnesses move people from seeing us to seeing Jesus.

An excited but imperfect witness

Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" ²⁸ So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, ²⁹ "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" ³⁰ They went out of the town and were coming to him. – John 4:27-30

The woman at the well found a new treasure.

An effective and missional witness

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." ³² But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." ³³ So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him something to eat?" ³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. ³⁵ Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. ³⁶ Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷ For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." – John 4:31-38



A missional mindset puts the will of God above everything else.

A missional mindset focuses on sowing and reaping:

- **Sowing:** choices, actions, attitudes, and faith a person plants.
- **Reaping:** outcomes or consequences that follow those choices.

What can we learn from the idea of sowing and reaping?

- God uses the unexpected.
- God will bring a great reward and joy.

Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. - John 4:36

- God uses the unexpected.
- God will bring a great reward and joy.
- God brings unity.

For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." 38 I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor. - John 4:37-38

A barrier-breaking witness

Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." 40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. 41 And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world." - John 4:39-42

Overcoming barriers?

- Barriers are crossed when lives are changed.

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Overcoming barriers?

- Barriers are crossed when lives are changed.
- Barriers fall because of Jesus' presence.

So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days.” – John 4:40

Overcoming barriers?

- Barriers are crossed when lives are changed.
- Barriers fall because of Jesus' presence.
- Barriers disappear when belief appears.

And many more believed because of his word. – John 4:41

Faithful witnesses move people from seeing us to seeing Jesus.