

Called To Engage

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Look

We all enjoy some alone time, perhaps some more than others. However sometimes we find ourselves isolated from the people we would normally be with. Perhaps due to timing, circumstances, or some other dynamic outside of our control.

1. Who are some people that make up your circle of meaningful relationships?
2. Can you describe a situation where you were separated from them, even for a short time? What was that experience like?
3. Imagine if you had to be apart from them for months, or years. What would you do?

Book

[John 4:5-42](#)

As this passage opens, both Jesus and the Samaritan woman are alone. One by choice, and the other not. They encounter each other at a Jacob's well which has been there for hundreds of years. They could just ignore each other, but something else happens.

1. What do you imagine the woman was thinking and feeling as she approached a lone man at the well?
2. What is revealed about the woman's mindset (and that of the people in the region) in her first response to Jesus?
3. Describe the progression of their conversation throughout this passage. How does that reflect the change in mindset of the woman?

Took

Our world is filled with people who are cut off from meaningful relationships. Some of them are obvious to us, but others might be much more unknown. Regardless, whether they know it or not, everyone hungers for a meaningful relationship.

1. Why is being meaningfully connected to other people so vital for our spiritual well-being?
2. What sort of disconnectedness among individuals do you see around you today that most bothers you?
3. What is something you can do to help invite others to find meaningful connections?