

Love Does: Audacious Love

John 4:4-8, 13-14

6.16.19

Happy Father's Day!

"Love Does" by Bob Goff – [Discover a Secretly Incredible Life in an Ordinary World](#) – Love is not simply an emotion, it is a way of living! Today we are going to talk about audacious love. Do you know that word, "Audacity" (Bold, risk-taking)? Have you ever noticed that real love is often characterized by big risks?

- Will you go out with me?
- Will you marry me?
- Will you let me grow and go?

Because love is other-focused, it is filled with risks. If you never take a risk, it's probably because you're trying to play it safe. That is contrary to the way love works. God doesn't have that problem. God is audacious in His love!

17 And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge...

Ephesians 3:17-19

That's incredible, all-encompassing love. Jesus loves with the same audacious love of His Father.

That brings us to the text for today from John 4. It is the story of the Woman at the Well. [<Sychar – The routes to Galilee>](#) One of the blessings of our trip to Israel is to understand how all of this travel would have worked. The normal route vs Jesus route.

4 Jesus had to travel through Samaria; 5 so He came to a town of Samaria called Sychar near the property that Jacob had given his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, worn out from His journey, sat down at the well. It was about noon. John 4:4-5

The first thing I want you to notice is that Jesus had to travel through Samaria. This was a big deal! Jews and Samaritans did not like each other. They avoided each other. But the text says Jesus had to go this way. We know He wasn't in a hurry (he stays for 2 days). But the word used here is the same word that is used in other places to describe a divine urgency. He "had" to go this way because God had scheduled this appointment.

14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. John 3:14

Jesus is on a mission to reach people who were lost and confused.

So when the Samaritans came to Him, they urged Him to stay with them, and He stayed two days. 41 And because of His words many more became believers. 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 4:40-42

What does that tell us about God's audacious love for people who don't know Him? No one is too far away from God to be without hope!

[<ILL: Hiking in Israel – Water is necessary!>](#) Jesus gets tired and thirsty during His travels!

NB: Two natures in Christ. He sits down by a well.

7 A woman of Samaria came to draw water. “Give me a drink,” Jesus said to her, 8 because His disciples had gone into town to buy food. 9 “How is it that You, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?” she asked Him. For Jews do not associate with Samaritans. John 4:7-9

It is hot, and Jesus wants is a drink. He asks a woman who is there, but she is shocked by His request, because of the animosity between Jews and Samaritans. Jews don't talk to Samaritans!

<ILL: Engaging questions> “Do you have children?” vs “Tell me about your family.” Jesus engages this woman because ultimately, He wants to tell her about something better than well water. He wants to change her life!

13 Jesus said, “Everyone who drinks from this water will get thirsty again. 14 But whoever drinks from the water that I will give him will never get thirsty again. In fact, the water I will give him will become a well of water springing up in him for eternal life.” John 4:13-14

Jesus promises a different kind of water you can't draw from a well. And the claims He makes about this water are amazing!

Jesus' Wonderful Way of Hydrating Us!

1. It is once-for-all 14 “Whoever drinks from the water that I will give him will never get thirsty again.” John 4:14

You can't drink water once and think that you are hydrated. The water we drink only gives us temporary life. Jesus gives a different kind of water. Once you get it one time and it lasts forever.

NB: Baptism – Why don't we re-baptize?

18 Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit ... 21 Baptism ... now saves you (not as the removal of dirt from the body, but the pledge of a good conscience toward God) through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 3:18, 21

<“Pledge of a good conscience”>

What Jesus gives is always enough!

- **Guilt over past mistakes** – Christ died for those! That's enough!
- **Worry about having enough** - **19 My God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19**
- **Ability to love others** – God's love in Christ flows through us. It really is enough!

One more thing... <ILL: Constitution and by-laws update> We didn't update our theology (our beliefs). Those don't change! They're once-for-all because they are based on what Jesus has done for us once-for-all.

2. It lives in us “The water I will give him will become a well of water springing up in him...” John 4:14

It's not just about what this water does for you, but what this water does in you. It becomes a spring!

<Spring at Dan> That water is not being contained! It flows out of the rock and through this area! Living water flows out of our Rock (Jesus) and through us!

We all have that. Sometimes, we just don't know it. It's important that we do.

- During an illness, we have a store of strength
- During stressful times, we have a refuge
- During crazy cultural times, we have a foundation

<ILL: Lessons I learned from my Dad. I am amazed to see them living in me today!> That's the beauty of the water Jesus is offering – it's from Him, but it's in you!

NB: Notice that this conversation changed the woman and her community!!

**²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar, went into town, and told the people,
²⁹ "Come, see a Man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" ³⁰ They left the town and made their way to Him. John 4:28-30**

3. It is infused with HOPE!

This water that Jesus gives is infused with hope!

¹⁴ "The water I will give him will become a well of water springing up in him for eternal life." John 4:14

Jesus asks this woman for help with water. But it's not because He needs her. It's ultimately because she needs Him. What Jesus gives leads to hope and eternal life. Please note: eternal life is not something this woman can pull up in a bucket, or work for. It's a simple gift, free and clear. In fact...

¹⁰ "If you knew the gift of God, and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would ask Him, and He would give you living water." John 4:10

Jesus just offers it, even when she doesn't know she needs it. The same is true for everyone!

Question: Do you know what you need from Jesus? We men like to think of ourselves as self-made. We can face any challenge! But dads, let me tell you: the best thing you can be for your family is not a self-made-man, but a Jesus-made-man. When Jesus loves your family through you it changes everything!

<ILL: Fathers and Grandfathers legacy of faith> We are all leaving a legacy. What does your legacy look like? Is it a legacy that just provides hope for the future? Or is it a legacy that provides hope for eternity?

Men, my prayer is that we will drink deeply from the life-giving water that Jesus gives and the spring of water that well up on us will leave a legacy of faith in Jesus that changes our families and changes our world!