



# ORDINARY.



Good Shepherd  
Sermon-Based Study Guide  
Genesis 24:10–27 & John 4:4–26  
August 24, 2025  
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## I. Introduction to this Study

This week in our *Ordinary* series, we look at two women who both met strangers at wells—Rebekah in Genesis and the Samaritan woman in John. Though separated by centuries, both encounters show how God works through ordinary people in unexpected ways. Rebekah’s hospitality and purity continue God’s covenant through Abraham’s family. The Samaritan woman’s brokenness and thirst are transformed when she meets Jesus, who offers “living water” that never runs dry. Together, these two women highlight how God’s covenant is both preserved and expanded, and how Christ quenches the deepest thirsts of the human soul.

## II. Connecting with One Another

Where do you most often go to “refill” or “refresh” in daily life?

## III. Study the Text

*Read Genesis 24:10–27*

- What do you notice about Rebekah’s generosity in drawing water for the servant and his camels?
- How does God’s covenant with Abraham continue through this ordinary encounter at the well?
- What does this story show about God’s providence and timing?

*Read John 4:4–26*

- Why is it surprising that Jesus initiates a conversation with this Samaritan woman?
- What does Jesus mean when he speaks of “living water”?
- How does the woman respond to Jesus’ words? What changes for her?

*Comparing the Two Women*

- How are Rebekah and the Samaritan woman similar? (location, stranger, conversation, revelation)



- How are they different? (insider vs. outsider, purity vs. brokenness, covenant continuing vs. covenant expanding)
- What do these contrasts teach us about God's heart and God's covenant purposes?

### *The Theme of Water*

- How does water function symbolically in both stories?
- What is the difference between water that quenches temporarily and the living water Jesus offers?
- How does this imagery connect to your own life and spiritual thirsts?

### *Reflect and Respond*

- Where do you see yourself more—in Rebekah (longing for a place in God's story) or in the Samaritan woman (longing for acceptance and forgiveness)?
- What are some "wells" you return to that never truly satisfy?
- In what ways has Jesus quenched your thirst with living water?
- Who in your life might be thirsty and waiting for you to point them toward Christ, the source of true life?
- How does this story remind you that God uses ordinary people, places, and conversations to accomplish extraordinary purposes?

## IV. Prayer

*Spend time in prayer together:*

- Thank God for being the source of living water that satisfies our deepest needs.
- Ask God to reveal the "wells" in your life that leave you thirsty, and to help you draw instead from Christ.
- Pray for those who feel like outsiders—that they would encounter Jesus' welcome and grace.
- Invite the Holy Spirit to use your ordinary words and actions for extraordinary purposes.

## V. Digging Deeper

*For additional reflection:*

- **Jeremiah 2:13** – What happens when people seek life from "broken cisterns"?
- **Isaiah 55:1** – How does God invite the thirsty to come to him freely?
- **Revelation 22:17** – What promise is given about the water of life in the new creation?

