

Dealing with Differences
Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the [recent sermons page](#) at our website and at the [Grantham Church Podcast](#) the following day, along with the small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

Sunday, July 17th, 2022



Sermon Title: Dealing with Differences

Scripture Reading: John 4:4-30

Sermon Focus: Jesus' disciples were astonished when they found him talking with a woman at a well in Samaria. Pious Jews did not associate with Samaritans, nor would they talk with any woman in public, especially one of dubious morality. Although Jesus had little in common with her, he overcame their differences of gender, ethnicity, and faith. Rich Stuebing will help us to see how Jesus dealt with these barriers and suggest how we can overcome similar barriers in our own divided society.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group in person or by video call. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. What are some of the barriers we face when building relationships with people who are different from us, whether in gender, race, or religion?
2. Read John 4:4-30. What strikes you about how Jesus engages with the woman at the well? What does he do and not do?
3. The Samaritan woman is not up front with Jesus about her lifestyle. Are there areas you try to hide from the Lord? What do you see in this passage about Jesus' heart or character that can release you from your guilt, shame, or fear in that area?
4. Is there a certain people-group that you tend to fear or stay away from (sometimes this is sub-conscious)? How do Jesus' attitude and actions spur us on to loving those who are different from us?
5. Which way do you tend to lean in your worship: emphasizing spirit or truth? How can you seek a better balance?