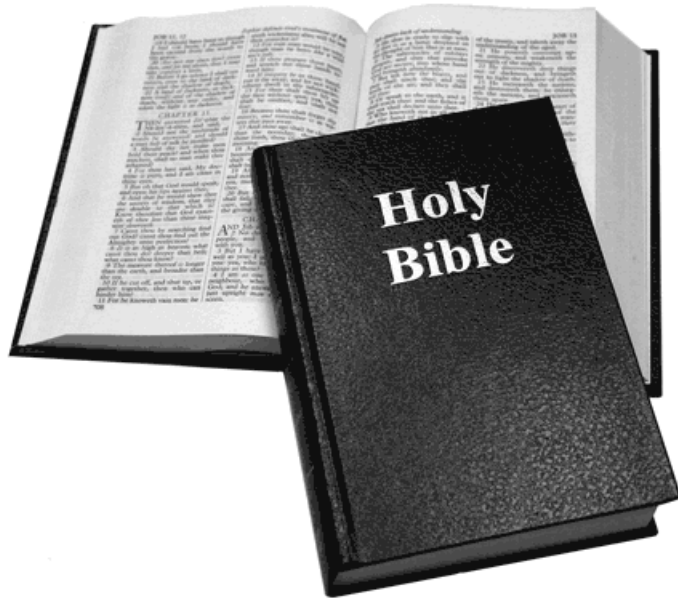


Studies in John – (Study 20) *A time and a place*

Reading: John 4:5-9



*“These things are written so
that you may believe that
Jesus is the Christ...”*

Home Fellowship Group Bible Study notes
Tuesday 15th / Wednesday 16th June

Sychar stood about eight miles south-east of Samaria. It was formerly known by the name Shechem and was the place where God confirmed His covenant to Abraham in Gen 12:6. In Gen 33:19 Jacob bought a piece of land there and later the bones of Joseph were buried when they were brought up from Egypt (Josh 24:32). Later it was at Shechem that Joshua assembled the people before his death and renewed their covenant with the Lord (Josh 24). Sadly after the death of Gideon it became a place of idolatrous worship (Judges 9:46).

- 1) Why do you think John gives us this geographical and historical information?
- 2) John observed that Jesus was tired. *What does this remind us about Jesus and what other examples can you think of to back that up?*
- 3) What do you think is the significance of John recording the time and the fact that the disciples were not there?
- 4) In verse 7 we have what on the surface seems a straight forward request; yet at the same time raises two taboos. *Taking into consideration what we learnt last time, how would you explain these two obstacles to Jesus' meeting with the woman?*
- 5) Jesus knew all about this needy woman before she said anything. *What do we learn about the way Jesus approached her?*
- 6) Before we go any further we can stop and compare this account in chapter 4 with that of Nicodemus in chapter 3? *What contrasts can you identify and what do they tell us about Christ's ministry?*