- 1. Has your desire to share the love of Christ with someone ever put you in an awkward situation? What about it made the situation awkward? Were you able to press through? Why or why not?
- 2. Read John 4:1–15. As we consider the previous chapter and Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus, what do we learn about his offer of salvation? What is his motivation behind it? What was Jesus willing to endure in order to extend that offer? What can we learn by following Jesus' example?
- 3. Read John 4:10. What is the meaning of living water and why is that significant?
- 4. Read John 4:11–15. In what ways do people in our time and culture attempt to satisfy their spiritual thirst other than with Christ? How about you? How does the water Jesus offers well up to become a spring of eternal life? Why is this important?
- 5. Read John 4:16–20. What does Jesus say to this woman that makes her uncomfortable? What does Jesus' ability to see this in her tell us about Jesus' willingness to be seen with those whom society might not be so comfortable? How does Jesus demonstrate both discernment and grace towards this woman?
- 6. Read John 4:19–26. Why does the woman bring up this issue of worship? How does Jesus respond and what is the bottom line? (Note, we'll go deeper on this text next week!)
- 7. Read John 4:27–42. What evidence is there of the belief of this woman? How does her belief and her experience with Jesus impact the people around her? Why are the disciples so reticent to join in? What motivation does this narrative provide for entering into awkward situations for the purpose of advancing the love of Christ?
- 8. Who in your life is like the Samaritan woman? How can you make the effort to cross borders in love, such that that person might be saved? Pray for that person right now and begin to look for opportunities to do just that.