



*Quaker Universalist Voice*

## John 4: Worship Translated for Children

by J.M. Spears

### **Worship is for All People in All Places at All Times**

4:4 Jesus was meant to go through Samaria, 5. And then to come upon a Samaritan city called Shechem. Shechem is near the plot of land that Jacob gave to his child, Joseph. 6. And on this land was Jacob's spring of water. Jesus, weary from the journey, sat down beside the spring. It was about noon.

7. A Samaritan woman came to get water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."  
8. (The followers of Jesus had gone away into town to buy food.)  
9. So the woman said to Jesus, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" (For Jew do not drink from the same cup as Samaritans.)  
10. Jesus answered the Samaritan woman, "If you recognized the gift of God and realized who was saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked, and would have been given living water."  
11. The woman said to Jesus, "Sir, you do not have a pail and the well is deep. So, where do you have the living water? You are not greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, are you? Jacob, his children and his cattle, all drank from the well."  
13. Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again. 14. But, whoever drinks from the water that I will give, will never be thirsty, throughout the future. The water which I give will become a fountain of revelation within, springing up into future life."  
15. The woman said to Jesus, "Sir, give me this water of life, so that I do not get thirsty and I do not have to come through to this place to draw water."  
16. Jesus said to the woman, "Go summon our god, and come here."  
17. The woman answered, "I do not have a god." Jesus said to the woman, "Your are correct to say that you do not have a god. 18. For, you have had five gods, and the one you have now is not your god. You have told the truth."  
19. The woman said to Jesus, "Sir, I recognize that you are a teacher like Moses. 20. Our ancestors worshipped on that mountain, but you people say that Jerusalem is the place meant for worship."  
21. Jesus said, "Trust me, O woman. The time is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will Samaritans worship the Creator. 22. You worship what you do not embrace. We worship what we do embrace, for it is proper that the gift of life go out from the Jews. 23. The time is coming, and is now, when he genuine worshippers will worship the Creator in spirit and in reality. For indeed, it is just such worshippers the Creator seeks. 24. God is

everywhere. And those worshipping God are meant to worship in breathing and in acting.”

25. The woman said to Jesus, I know that a Messiah is coming, the one being called Christ. When that one comes, that one will tell us everything.”

26. Jesus said to the woman, “I am that one, speaking to you.”