



# JESUS AND THE

## A small crowd had gathered near the fifth-grade classroom.

Matthew, one of the smallest boys in the class, had his back up against one of the lockers. Greg, one of the biggest boys in the class, had knocked Matthew's books to the floor. "Not one single person in this school likes you, ya know," he yelled in Matthew's face. "They all wish you would leave!"

Matthew put his hands up to his face and started to cry. For a few seconds, no one said anything. Then Alice, one of Matthew's and Greg's classmates, spoke up. "That's not true, Matthew," she said. "I like you. I think you are very kind and smart." The rest of the students gasped. No one had ever spoken up in front of Greg before.

Greg got very angry, but he didn't know what to say. He just kicked a locker and the books on the floor, and walked away. The rest of the students looked with admiration at Alice. She had done something that none of them had the courage to do.

When the other students drifted away, Matthew thanked Alice for what she said. "You are very brave. I wish I could stand up to Greg like that."

Alice smiled. "To be honest," she said, "I was scared to death. I would never have thought that someone like me would be able to stand up to someone like Greg."

Matthew was surprised. "So what made you do that?"

Alice bent over to help Matthew pick up his books. "I guess it's because of something I learned about following Jesus," Alice said, then paused. "Something about what it means to be a witness."

*Read John 4:5-42 and then close your Bible. Answer each of the following questions about the reading and the information your catechist shared with you about the reading.*

**1. In this Gospel reading, what region were Jesus and his disciples passing through? (See v. 4.)**

JUDEA  
SAMARIA  
NAZARETH

**2. Where did Jesus meet the Samaritan woman? (See v. 5.)**

AT JACOB'S WELL  
IN THE MARKETPLACE  
ON A STREET CORNER

**3. What was the first thing Jesus said to the woman? (See v. 7.)**

GIVE ME A DRINK  
I WILL GIVE YOU LIVING WATER  
TRUE WORSHIPERS WILL WORSHIP  
THE FATHER IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

**4. Why was it shocking that Jesus spoke to the woman?**

JEWISH MEN SPOKE TO ONLY CERTAIN  
WOMEN IN PUBLIC  
JEWS AND SAMARITANS DESPISED  
EACH OTHER  
BOTH OF THESE

**5. What did St. Francis of Assisi say about preaching the gospel?**

PREACH THE GOSPEL CONSTANTLY.  
USE WORDS IF NECESSARY.  
I WILL GIVE YOU LIVING WATER.  
BE GENTLE TO ALL AND STERN WITH  
YOURSELF.

# WOMAN AT THE WELL

**6. Where were the disciples when Jesus met the Samaritan woman? (See v. 7.)**

PREACHING ELSEWHERE  
BUYING FOOD IN THE TOWN  
IN GALILEE

**7. What did the disciples say when they saw Jesus speaking with the woman? (See v. 31.)**

WHY ARE YOU TALKING TO HER?  
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?  
RABBI, EAT.

**8. What did the woman say about Jesus to the people in the town? (See v. 29.)**

COME SEE A MAN WHO TOLD ME EVERYTHING  
I HAVE DONE.  
COULD HE POSSIBLY BE THE MESSIAH?  
BOTH OF THESE

**9. After listening to Jesus, what did many more of the people of Samaria do? (See v. 42.)**

BELIEVE IN JESUS AS THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD  
BELIEVE IN JESUS BECAUSE OF HIS WORD  
BOTH OF THESE

**10. In the story, what did Alice do?**

BULLIED MATTHEW  
SHOVED GREG  
FACED GREG WITH COURAGE

**11. How were Alice's actions an example of being a witness for her faith?**

HER ACTIONS SHOWED JESUS' LOVE  
FOR OTHERS.  
ALTHOUGH FRIGHTENED, SHE DID  
WHAT WAS RIGHT.  
SHE WITNESSED TO JESUS WITHOUT  
SAYING A WORD ABOUT HIM.  
ALL OF THESE

"I really was scared and almost didn't say anything," Alice admitted. "I had to pray for courage before I talked. But I learned that when we do what Jesus wants us to do—like just now—we spread his message about what it means to love others."

"I know one thing for sure," Matthew said with confidence. "Because of what you did, I'm not going to be so afraid of Greg anymore." Matthew paused for a minute and then added:

**"We can spread Jesus' teachings without saying a word about Jesus."**

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Answers: 1. Samaria 2. at Jacob's well 3. Give me a drink. 4. both of these 5. Preach the gospel constantly. Use words if necessary. 6. buying food in the town 7. Rabbi, eat. 8. both of these 10. both of these 11. faced Greg with courage 12. all of these

