

## How to Lose a Relationship in 5 Weeks — Week Two

### Main Idea

If you want to have influence in someone's life, you need to accept them first.

### Starter

Where in your life do you feel the most accepted for who you are right now? Why?

### Discuss

Have you ever had a time in your life where you felt rejected? What happened and how did you recover from it?

### Scripture

Take turns reading [John 4:1-30](#) as a group. Then, discuss:

- What does this passage show you about Jesus? How do you see Him embodying the principle, "you can't influence someone unless you accept them first" in this interaction?
- Put yourself in the shoes of the woman at the well, how do you think she felt during this conversation with Jesus? How was she different after this encounter?
- How has Jesus' acceptance of you changed your life?
- Who is someone you could love more like Jesus to influence them toward Him?

*In this conversation, make sure to keep the conversation focused on Jesus and loving others like Him. We need to avoid 2 extremes to follow His example. Either 1) approving of people's sin or 2) putting requirements on people to be accepted. Jesus accepted people who were sinful to offer them a changed life in His Kingdom, but He never approved of their sin. He offered them a better alternative—the living water of a relationship with Him. The Gospel of Jesus declares that we are justified, or made right with God, because of His goodness rather than our own. It is His kindness that leads us to repentance (Romans 2:4).*

### Apply

Have everyone take a quiet moment to pray and reflect about:

1. A way you need to trust Jesus' unconditional love and acceptance for you.
2. A step you could take to show someone acceptance of Jesus regardless of their sin.

Break up into groups of 2-3 to share what God puts on your heart. Pray for each other and the people you shared about as the Holy Spirit leads.