4. All Can Play



In Jesus' time, everyone in his community disliked Samaritans, and Samaritans disliked Israelites (Jesus' people). It was a silly disagreement from long ago that spiraled into much more. Have you ever had that experience, maybe with a sister or a brother, maybe a friend, or even a parent? Maybe there was a time when something small suddenly became something much bigger and more complex. Suddenly, you find yourself not wanting to spend time with that person, or wanting to play with them, and you don't even know why.

Jesus met a Samaritan woman at a well one time, and everyone was telling Him that He shouldn't associate with Samaritans. Guess what, He did! Jesus did the opposite. All people deserve to both talk and be heard. When He talked to the Samaritan woman at the well, they started to break down the walls of anger and were friendly instead. Easter is all about hope and breaking down walls.

Question Time:

Have you ever felt upset or mad at someone and you couldn't say exactly why? What was that like? What did you do to help the situation?

How has talking made you feel better?

Check out this story of when Jesus broke down walls and gave hope.

John 4:1-10

I Now Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John—2 although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples. 3 So he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee. 4 Now he had to go through Samaria. 5 So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. 7 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" 8 (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) 10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

After this, she went to a village and shared with all her friends and family about her conversation with Jesus. More people got to hear about His love, and they helped break down some walls of anger.

Next Steps:

If there is someone at your school, your neighborhood, or your family that you feel upset with, take a moment and talk about your feelings. Then take a moment to pray for that person and that relationship out loud. Maybe by listening, hearing, sharing, and praying you can help break down some walls and start to spread a bit of love yourself!