

# FULLY KNOWN \ FULLY LOVED

Who knows you best?

Is it possible for someone to know you better than you know yourself? Why or why not?

What does it mean to 'know somebody'? How does our level of familiarity differ between acquaintances, friends and family relationships?

Timothy Keller says '*To be known and not loved is our greatest fear*'? Do we agree with this statement?



In what ways do we hide who we really are? What factors encourage this masking?

Why does it appear to be human nature to care what people think of us? Is that something that we can suppress, and SHOULD it be something we suppress? Is caring what other people think a way of maintaining social order?

What do we think the cliché '*to know me is to love me*' means? Do we agree with it?

What examples can you think of in the Bible when Jesus shows someone that they are fully loved when they might not believe they deserved it? Is there something we can learn from Jesus example of this love?

How can the knowledge of being fully loved change our daily experience? What freedoms does it bring?

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What barriers or obstacles prevent you from 'knowing' people around you?

When was the last time you had a conversation with someone who was a stranger to you?

Stereotypes can sometimes make us feel like we know people who are strangers to us. What effect might this have when we interact with them, and how might being aware of our assumptions affect our interactions with others?

In John 4:4 it says "Jesus had to go through Samaria" – many Jews intentionally went around Samaria but Jesus intentionally goes through Samaria. What motivated Jesus? In what ways can we be more intentional in breaking barriers that divide people?

The woman at the well was cautious and sceptical about Jesus at first. How might you have reacted?

The woman at the well focused on the impossibility of the process (the WHAT and HOW) that she almost lost the main idea of what Jesus wanted to address, the WHO and WHY. How do we do the same things today?

The woman at the well freely shared about Jesus with her town. What prejudices or fears prevent us from inviting people to meet Jesus?

Where do you think our "wells" are today - the office water-cooler? The checkout at the supermarket? A train full of commuters on a Monday morning? Try and imagine the incongruity of this conversation if it had a modern day parallel in 2014. What differences might there be and what might stay the same. (e.g. Scenario: you've just plugged in your iPhone charger and someone offers you a power source that would never run out...)