

# SKI JUMP

## Discussion Notes

### I IS FOR INVITE

Read through the story of the woman at the well in John 4:1-42. It is a story a few of us will have heard a lot before so it is worth asking God to reveal new things to us through this passage before reading it. Then reflect on what God spoke to you about as you read.

Sam said that "Jesus invites us, so we invite others". Actually inviting our friends to find out more about faith is a key part of following Jesus, but many of us find it difficult to do so.

- Spend some time reflecting on what makes inviting people challenging - why do we not do it as regularly as we practice other aspects of our faith?

Sam explained that Jesus' invitation is simple, for everyone and powerful, so ours should be the same.

#### Jesus' invite is... SIMPLE

Jesus engaged with the woman in a really simple and human way. Likewise, when she went back to the town she didn't give a long preach or explain everything, she just shared her experiences and invited them to find out more.

- How do we make the invitation of Jesus more complicated than it is?
- Is that a barrier to us inviting our friends - are we worried that we won't know the answers to difficult questions or feel like we aren't confident enough in our faith to share it?
- The woman simple shared her experiences of meeting Jesus. What could that look like for you in every day life?

#### Jesus' invite is... FOR EVERYONE

The woman gave lots of reasons why she probably wouldn't be invited to follow Jesus (she's a woman, she's Samaritan, she is an outcast in society) and yet Jesus invited her.

- What barriers do our friends put up that makes them feel like they wouldn't be invited to church?
- How do we unintentionally reinforce these barriers?
- What can we do to make sure that we are inviting everyone, regardless of their background, history or where they are at?

#### Jesus' invite is... POWERFUL

Finally, we see that Jesus' invitation is powerful as it changes her life and sees a whole town transformed.

- Reread verses 10 to 15. This is an interesting passage that it's worth unpacking as a group. What does Jesus mean by living water? What is Jesus saying to the woman here?
- Do you have stories in your group about the power of Jesus' invitation? What difference has it made in your life?
- Do we undersell the power of the invitation that we have to offer? Are we aware of how much difference it could make to someone's life? If so, why don't we invite people more?

Finally, try to keep the discussion practical and challenge each other with specific goals for your group. You might want to write people's names down that you are going to invite and pray for them. You might want to find a way to commit together to inviting the friends you have listed. Finish by praying for each other for boldness to invite and that we would see many of our friends accepting Jesus' invitation.