



Jacob's Pharmacy

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Now he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's *pharmacy* was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the *pharmacy*. It was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to *fill her prescription*, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me some *medicine*?" (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for *medicine*?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for *medicine*, you would have asked him and he would have given you living *medicine*." "Sir," the woman said, "you have no *prescription* and the *medicine is controlled*. Where can you get this living *medicine*? Are you greater than our father Jacob who gave us the *pharmacy* and *filled his prescriptions here* himself as did also his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered, "Everyone who takes this *medicine* will be *sick* again, but whoever *takes the medicine* I give them will never *get sick*. Indeed, the *medicine* I give them will become in them a *miracle cure* leading to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this *medicine* so that I won't get sick and have to keep coming here to *fill my prescriptions*."

Adapted from John 4:4-15 (NIV)

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