

Today, Sunday of the Samaritan Woman, the Gospel according to Saint John 4:5-42 is read. We hear the full story about the Samaritan Woman who meets Jesus Christ at Jacob's well when she comes to draw water. In their encounter much is revealed to her in their conversation. He tells her about her life, her choices; and she, in awe wonders if He is the Messiah. Jesus Christ doesn't allow her to ponder however, He tells her plainly, "I who speak to you am He." Leaving her water jar, she went to the city and told everyone about Jesus Christ, bringing them to Him.

The people she brought were converted, and followed Jesus Christ as the Messiah. She is also known by her baptismal name, Saint Photine, Equal-to-the-Apostles. As her name reveals, she was the "enlightened one" by God. She is Equal-to-the-Apostles because she works greatly to build up the Church, the Body of Christ.

Dearest ones, do we encounter God in our everyday lives. Is God in our thoughts, heart, and soul when we are doing the dishes? While tuning up the car? During the work day? Saint Photine as she was going about her daily routine, going to the well for water, encountered our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Can we too encounter God in our daily routines?

If yes, do we wonder what He will reveal to us? Saint Photine was given much to think about and repent on, change her ways, and turn towards Christ. Sometimes we ignore aspects of ourselves because it is easier to do so than face that we may need to repent and change our ways like she did in her life. Let us therefore, throughout our day, in every work carry in our thoughts, heart and soul that of God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Who wants a personal relationship with each and every one of us!

In His name, let us devote our life, that we too can become beacons of light for all to follow towards the Kingdom of God as Saint Photine, Equal-to-the-Apostles, so that people will exclaim, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard ourselves, and we know that this is indeed Christ the Savior of the world," amen.