

## **Jesus' news outlet**

In one of the longest recorded conversations, Jesus explained to a Samaritan harlot that he was the long-awaited Jewish Messiah.

It seems that she was the first person to whom Jesus confided this fact, (John 4.25-26).

How remarkable that, in an earlier audience which Jesus held with Nicodemus, a respected Jewish theologian, he didn't mention his identity.

This woman was drawn by Jesus' respect for her as a person.

In response to his acknowledgement of her worth and human dignity, and his genuine regard for her as his equal, she was converted on the spot.

Then a short time later, when the townspeople saw the immediate change in her life, they wanted to meet the Messiah for themselves.

As a result, many of them were converted too! See how it happened.

**First**, Jesus did not seek publicity by exploiting the obvious admiration of Nicodemus (John 3:1-2).

**Secondly**, he willingly risked adverse publicity by speaking to a hated Samaritan - what's more, one with a bad reputation!

**Third**, he refused to label people as socially unacceptable.

In particular, he treated a woman - even though she was a harlot - as his equal and not as a second class citizen.

As a result, she became his self-appointed publicity agent.

What more effective news outlet could Jesus have wished for?

## **GOOD NEWS IN BRIEF**

To love to talk is one thing - to love those to whom we talk, quite another.