



COMMITTED – COMMIT TO WORSHIP

Community Group Study Guide: John 4:16-26 – Week of March 5th, 2023

1. The Father is Seeking Worshippers

We have been created to worship, and are designed to worship the Lord alone. However, our sinful nature desires to steal what is due to God, and deliver it to idols. In our passage, we see this process displayed through Jesus' interaction with the women from Samaria. Jesus makes it clear that He is not talking about a generational feud between Jews and Samaritans, or even about literal water. Jesus actively engages with the woman, and presses in on her idolatry. He speaks to how this woman had many husbands, and even the man she was with now was not her own. She had figuratively been drinking from water that never satisfied, that left her needing to consume more and more of it. Like all of us, she was worshipping an idol, whose wages produced death. But praise God, because Jesus has come to give us water that leads to eternal life... A water that satisfies forever and will not leave us thirsty again. The Father desired His creation to worship Him, so He has sent His Son to save the world. Through the glorious redeeming work of Jesus, we are now lost worshippers that have been found... we can now give God His just and deserved worship as we were originally intended to. Rejoice, for the Father is seeking worshippers.

2. Who will Worship in Spirit and Truth

Through the living water given to us by Jesus, we can now worship the Father. However, that does mean that our worship is defined by us. We are called to worship God in Spirit, and in Truth. There is both a right way(truth) and a right means (Spirit) by which we worship God. To worship God in truth, we must worship Him as He has defined Himself. To understand this, we look to scripture... to God's breath and expression. We worship Him in the fashion that He has decreed, praising Him for the attributes that He has revealed about Himself. We see in God's word and in His

DISCUSSION GOALS

Head

As created beings, the question of worship is not whether, but which. We are commanded to worship the Lord alone, and give no worship to any idol. We are to worship God as He has prescribed, and do so through His Spirit

Heart

Our sinful flesh seeks to pursue the idols of our hearts. We should deny these temptations, and present ourselves as living sacrifices to the Lord for His worship.

Hands

We are to live lives of worship. It should saturate everything that we do, and not be compartmentalized to any section of our being.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parent Commissioning
3/12 @ 11:15pm
Membership 101
3/19 @ 1pm

Son who He is, and how we might truthfully worship Him. Furthermore, the right way to worship God is through the enabling of God's Holy Spirit. This is why Jesus notes to the Samaritan women that the hour had come where the location of worship would no longer matter. That the correct means by which we worship God would come through the Spirit. We are to be filled by the Holy Spirit, so that through His power we might worship God. When we worship God in both spirit and truth, we worship Him within our designed capacity.

3. Both in Word and Deed

Worship is not limited to an event, a song, or a moment. Worship should saturate our entire lives. It is a lifestyle of obedience that testifies continuously to the work of what the Lord has done. Paul tells us in Romans 12 that our lives are to become like living sacrifices... our spiritual worship to God. Like the woman, we should by declaring to those around us what Jesus has done for us.

Read John 4:1-42

1. How do we define worship? What is its purpose? What are its attributes?
2. Many of us have an instinctual aversion to God's demand and command that we worship Him. Why are we tempted to reject this command? Why is it good and right that we worship God as He has commanded?
3. What happens to us when we worship an idol? What happens when we worship God? How does understanding the difference help encourage or inform us?
4. What does Jesus mean when He refers to worshipers worshipping in Truth?
5. What is the significance of us worshipping in Spirit? How does that effect our worship?
6. One common way that we worship is through song. Why do we do this? What is require for us to worship the Lord correctly through song? What are the restraints on worship through song? What are some pitfalls that should be avoided?
7. How do we stir up motivation for worship? How do we encourage ourselves to be living sacrifices?