

Got Worship?

"Back In The Swing" series- Part 03

Use the next few minutes to connect and fellowship with other members of the group by discussing the following:

"Let's get on the same page" illustration:

In a recent message, Pastor Sean, shared with us some of the old Hebrew words translated "worship" and their particular emphasis. Below is another list provided by various authors and found in dictionaries.

Aligning ourselves with God's will (Geoff Bullock)

- 'The English word 'worship' is derived from the Anglo-Saxon 'weorthscipe' - 'worth' and 'ship' meaning one worthy of reverence and honor (derivation).
- The act of revering or honoring God; obedient service (Heinemann Australian Dictionary).
- To pay great honor and respect to (World Book Dictionary).
- The celebration of God's supreme worth in such a manner that God's worthiness becomes the norm and inspiration of human living (Ralph Martin - *The Worship of God*).

As a group, briefly discuss these definitions of worship by considering the following questions:

1. How do you define "reverence"?
2. How do we "align" ourselves with God?
3. What are examples of inward and outward acts of celebration in our worship today?

Today we look at the familiar story of the Woman at the Well, who found salvation in her interaction with Jesus. In the course of their conversation, she brings up worship and Jesus provides for her and us, some necessary principles about worship for our time.

Book: John 4:19-26

John 4:19 "Sir," the woman said, "You must be a prophet.

John 4:20 So tell me, why is it that you Jews insist that Jerusalem is the only place of worship, while we Samaritans claim it is here at Mount Gerizim, where our ancestors worshiped?"

John 4:21 Jesus replied, "Believe Me, dear woman, the time is coming when it will no longer matter whether you worship the Father on this mountain or in Jerusalem.

John 4:22 You Samaritans know very little about the One you worship, while we Jews know all about Him, for salvation comes through the Jews.

John 4:23 But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship Him that way.

John 4:24 For God is Spirit, so those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth."

John 4:25 The woman said, "I know the Messiah is coming—the One who is called Christ. When He comes, He will explain everything to us."

John 4:26 Then Jesus told her, "I AM the Messiah!"

Let's get into the Word:

1. Why did the Jews and the Samaritans worship at two different places? Which was the correct place of worship before Christ was born and why?
2. What did Jesus mean when He stated that "salvation was of the Jews"?

3. What do you think it means to worship God in spirit?

4. What do you think it means to worship God in truth?

5. Is worship bound to a particular place, day or style in our world today as it was in the Old Testament days? Why/why not?

6. Share a personal experience of worship that occurred outside a church building.

7. Based on this Bible story and your group discussion today, what do you want to remember most about worship?

Lets go on mission:

What subtle change do you need to make in your worship of God?

How can you share with someone else this week the truths from this lesson?