

The Transforming Friendship

The Discipline of Worship – John 4:19-26

Discussion Points

March 1, 2020

Read/Reflect

1. Read the entire story of Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman, aware that for Jesus to converse with a woman and with a Samaritan was both looked down upon. What do you think about Jesus' interaction with the woman? How does he reveal himself (who he is) to her?
2. Reflect on John 4:24. Why does Jesus use that particular phrase (spirit and truth) in the context of his conversation with the woman? (by the way, some translations interpret the phrase to mean "worship *in the Spirit* (i.e. Holy Spirit) and truth – how does that change the meaning?)

Explore

3. How does your view of worshipping God change when you think of it as a "spiritual discipline" rather than simply an activity you decide to do?
4. Reflecting on the Samaritan woman's view of worship (it's about the right place), when have you made worship all about something other than "spirit and truth?" For example, when have you made worship about "style," or about you, or about preference?
5. What kind of obstacles do you wrestle with in your worship of God? Are there things you misplace in your life that are on par with the worship of God?
6. When have you been in worship and experienced some kind of transformation or conviction?
7. When you think about worship in truth what do you think about:
 - Right doctrine and beliefs?
 - The truth about myself?
 - The truth about who God is?
 - Something else: _____ ?
8. In what ways do you think you could change your practice of worship to reflect more of what Jesus meant by worshipping in spirit and in truth?

Pray

- Commit your answers to #8 to prayer.
- Spend some time in worship to God, maybe with a song, or reading a psalm.

