

October 2, 2016
John 4:21-24

THE DISCIPLES OLYMPICS: WEIGHING IN ON WORSHIP

I. Introduction: Weighing In On Worship

What is True Worship?

The most common Old Testament word for Worship is *Hishtahvah* meaning “To bow down” with the sense of reverence, respect, and honor.

The New Testament word is Proskuneo. It refers to an inward experience of the heart.

In the book “Knowing God” by J.I. Packer, he defines worship as: “an activity of Holy Thought, consciously performed under the eye of God, with the help of God, as a means of glorifying God.”

II. How are we to worship?

God is spirit and his worshipers must worship him in spirit and in truth.” John 4:24

What do these two phrases “in spirit” and “in truth” mean?

- In spirit – “Be filled with the Spirit” Ephesians 5:18

“In spirit means that true worship is carried along by the Holy Spirit and is happening mainly as an inward spiritual event.” John Piper

- In truth – Jesus said, “Sanctify them in the truth. Thy Word is Truth.” John 17:17

Genuine worship is a response to God’s revealed Truth.

III. What Keeps us from worshipping “In Spirit” and “In Truth?”

3 Mists that keep us from True Worship?

The mist of:

a.) _____

“Let us draw near to God with a **sincere heart** in full assurance of faith.” Hebrews 10:22

“For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose **hearts** are fully committed to him.” 2 Chronicles 16:9

b.) _____

“If we confess our sins to God he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” I John 1:9

c.) _____

“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.” I Peter 5:8

IV. Conclusion

May El Estero be a church of true worshipers. May we be a church that worships the Lord from our hearts. May we learn what it means to worship in spirit and in truth.

POINTS TO PONDER
Week of October 2nd to October 8th
The Disciples Olympics: Weighing In On Worship
John 4:21-24

Open It

1. *How do people satisfy their hungers and thirsts in life?
2. Why are the messages in TV commercials so appealing and persuasive?
3. In what ways are people you know prejudiced?

Explore It

4. What had the Pharisees heard about Jesus? (4:1)
5. What did Jesus do when he heard what the Pharisees were saying about Him? (4:3)
6. Through what place did Jesus have to travel? (4:4-5)
7. *Why did Jesus sit down by Jacob's well? (4:6)
8. What did Jesus say to the Samaritan woman? (4:7)
9. Where were Jesus' disciples? (4:8)
10. Why was the Samaritan woman surprised that Jesus spoke to her? (4:9)
11. How did Jesus answer the Samaritan woman's question? (4:10)
12. What did the Samaritan woman think Jesus was talking about? (4:11-12,15)
13. *What did Jesus say would be the result of drinking the water He offered? (4:13-14)

14. Whom did Jesus tell the Samaritan woman to go and get? (4:15)
15. How did Jesus respond to the Samaritan woman's answer to His request? (4:17-18)
16. How did the Samaritan woman respond to Jesus' statements about her situation? (4:19-20)
17. *How did Jesus say people would worship God? (4:21-23)
18. What kind of worshipers does God seek? (4:23)
19. What did Jesus say about God? (4:24)
20. Who did Jesus say He was? (4:25-26)

Get It

21. What groups of people do you feel uncomfortable being around? Why?
22. How might a person feel put off by another's background, nationality, or race?
23. How can prejudice affect a Christian's witness?
24. *How have you responded to Jesus' invitation to receive His living water?
25. How is Jesus' gift of salvation different from what the world offers?
26. *How is the world's need for salvation and eternal life like thirst?
27. In what other ways besides thirst might you describe eternal life?

Apply It

28. How can we worship God in spirit and in truth?