

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....” John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a



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Growth Track

Take Your Next Step

Growth Guide

Handout: 9/10/2017

Study: 9/17/2017

Grow By Worshiping

In an unlikely encounter with an immoral Samaritan woman, our Lord Jesus uttered one of most important statements ever made about worship. In John’s deeply moving account of Jesus’ meeting with the woman at the well, after Jesus uncovers her hidden sin and shame, she asks Him about a worship matter of long dispute between Jews and Samaritans — and of great importance to them both: “Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to Him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.” Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he” (John 4:20–26).

Jesus’ answer thunders with points of significance regarding the momentous transition that He Himself was bringing about in the history of redemption through His own life, ministry, death and resurrection; but it also speaks specifically to the theology of Christian worship.

First, Jesus’ great statement that we must “worship in spirit and truth” has implications for every aspect of biblical worship. The Bible indicates that worship is both a specific activity and a way of life. Worship, as an activity, has at least three aspects in the Bible (public worship, family worship, and private worship) alongside all-of-life worship.

Second, Jesus’ great statement that we must “worship in spirit and truth” means that we must glorify God (in public, family, private, and all of life) in accordance with God’s own nature and truth. This means at least two things: First, we must realize that God is Spirit, and, hence, He is not tied to one location for our worship. Second, we must worship according to the truth of Jesus’ person and work, for He is the truth (John 1:14; 14:6) and, thus, the only way whereby we may truly worship God. In other words, Jesus is Himself “the truth” according to which we must worship. He is the very incarnation of God (John 1:14), the embodiment of the Father’s character (John 14:6), and the fullest revelation of God’s nature and plan (John 1:18; Heb. 1:1–3). Thus, to worship in truth means to worship in accordance with the truth of and about Jesus — that He is the Son of God, the Messiah, and the only Savior of sinners.

Adapted from “Worship in Spirit and Truth” by Ligon Duncan

KEY VERSE

Acts 2:46-47a

“And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people.” NKJV

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Acts 2:42-47

Introduction

What do you think of when you hear the word worship?

What are some ways that the church in Acts 2 worshipped?

Tuesday: Exodus 15:11; Revelation 4:8; Psalm 96:2-6

Who We Worship

What attributes does God have that make him worthy of our worship?

What experiences have you had with God that cause you to worship Him?

Wednesday: Hebrews 10:25; 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

How We Worship

What are some ways that you worship God while at church?

What are ways to worship outside of our Sunday worship service?

Thursday: John 4:23-24; John 16:13-14

Lifestyle of Worship

What does it mean to worship God in Spirit?

What does it mean to be led by the Spirit?

How do you know that you are being led by the Spirit?

Friday: Matthew 4:10; 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Worship in Truth

It has been said that it is not a matter of whether you will worship, but who or what you will worship. If we are not careful to give our worship to the Lord, what are some things we can misplace our worship in?

How do you measure whether you are truly worshipping God?

This week is the conclusion of our Growth Track Series. Has God spoken to you about an area He would like you to grow in?