

## In the Spirit and in Truth

### Scripture Reading — John 4:19-26

*“A time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth.” — John 4:23*

In today's verses we find Jesus in conversation with a Samaritan woman at a well. She is there to get water; he speaks of living water that provides eternal life. She recognizes he is a prophet of the Jews and tries to argue *where* worship should be. Jesus says it's not about *where* but about *who* is worshiped.

John 4:23 issues a warning that could fill us with great fear and trembling. But the good news is that God *wants* our worship; otherwise, why would he call us *to* worship? What's more, Christ qualifies us to worship him.

The call is to worship God "in the Spirit and in truth." The Spirit gives us faith *in* God (Ephesians 2:8-9), and Scripture gives us the truth *about* God (Hebrews 4:12-13) so that we can *know* the God we worship. "Spirit and truth worship," then, is *genuine* worship. Being spiritually disciplined enables us to worship by knowing who God is, as well as *who* and *whose* we are.

We can and should worship privately, but we need to worship with others as well. We worship not because of the great things he's done for us, but because God is great, glorious, good, gracious, and *worthy* of worship. Worshiping regularly with others orients the rest of our lives around God. Together believers make the gospel visible to the world and encourage each other that the risen Christ is real. Where will you worship this week—and whom will you worship?

### Prayer

*Lord God, we need your Spirit to teach us the truth about you and to inspire our worship, for Jesus' sake. Amen.*

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