

Date	Topic	Scriptures
6/3/2020	Depend On God	Genesis 39:1- 6, 16 – 23
6/10/2020	Making A Bold Move	Numbers 27:1 – 11
6/17/2020	God's Justice and The Burning Bush	Exodus 3:1 – 10
6/24/2020	Seeking Salvation and Choosing Compassion	Luke 10:25 – 37
7/1/2020	Break	No Study
7/8/2020	Worship Anchors My Soul	John 4:7 – 24
7/15/2020	Share the Good News	Mark 5:1 – 19
7/22/2020	Protection: Who's Got Your Back?	I Samuel 19:1 – 7
7/29/2020	Faithful: Advancing The Good News	Acts 18:1 – 4, 18 – 26

# This Week's Lesson – July 8, 2020

# Truth, Justice and Power – The Jesus Way Lesson 5: Worship Anchors My Soul John 4:7 – 24



### **Group Discussion**

As Children of God how do we reflect love and thankfulness for Him despite the spiritual wickedness of our times?

- Praise God: Recognizing who He is and What Jesus has already done for us and in us.
- <u>Thank God:</u> Being grateful for what we have not necessarily what we are facing but for the hope that He will bring us through.



 Proclaim/Demonstrate God's Love: Showing compassion and walking in forgiveness to everyone despite their race or history.

## **Introduction to John's Gospel**

Author: John the Apostle (21:20–24) Son of Zebedee (Luke 5:10).

Date of Writing: AD 70 or AD 85—90.

Purpose of Writing: "...that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name" (20:31).

#### **Practical Application:**

- The Gospel of John fulfills its purpose of evangelizing the lost (3:16).
- Jesus' words to His disciples before His death (14:1-6, 16; 16:33) are still of great comfort in sorrowful times.
- John's teachings concerning the deity of Christ (1:1-3, 14) provide revelation that Jesus is fully God and fully man.







# **Jesus Travels To Samaria**

- Due To Tensions Between Jews
  And Samaritans, People
  Travelling To Jerusalem Avoided
  Samaria.
- Jesus Purposely Went Against
  The Norms And Passed Through
  Samaria On His Way To
  Jerusalem.

Read John 4:7 - 24

- 1. The woman came to the well at noon, one of the hottest times of the day. Why do you suppose she comes at this time?
- <u>To Avoid People</u>: Because of her sin and shame she wanted to avoid the people (esp. the women) of the town.
- <u>To Access Physical Needs:</u> She is going to the well to meet her physical thirst a symbol of her (and our) Spiritual thirst.
- To Be Available For God/Grace: Without realizing it, she is by God's providence being put in the right place and time to meet her Saviour.



Note: Jesus is the One who seeks us when we are lost and in need of salvation. He meets us in ordinary places

- 2. What might have caused her situation? What social stigmas might she have encountered? Explain.
- <u>Sin/Relationships:</u> She may have been hooking up with the wrong people/men or may have even been the "Wrong Person"
- <u>Situation</u>: it is possible that some of her husband died or were the ones initiating the problems and divorces.
- <u>Support:</u> In that culture she could not support herself being a single/divorced/widowed woman or was afraid of being alone.



Note: God has grace and forgiveness available to all, no matter how great our sins may be

- 2. What might have caused her situation? What social stigmas might she have encountered? Explain.
- <u>Spiritual Stigmas:</u> Because of her life she would not be very welcome in the Synagogue for worship or fellowship.
- <u>Social Stigmas:</u> A divorced woman married 5 times would definitely face shunning, gossip and judgment from others.
- <u>Self-Esteem Stigmas:</u> She would probably experience stigmas from people who thought of themselves as "better" than she is.



Note: We need to be careful about how we judge or view people who fall short of God's (because we all do...)

- 3. What can we do to make sure we are not prejudicial in our treatment of others?
- <u>Recognize God's Creation:</u> We need to see everyone regardless of their race or state, as created by God that He desires to save.
- Remember God's Grace: We need to remember that we were once in sin and God's Grace saved us.
- Release God's Forgiveness: We need to let go of the past and give the same forgiveness we've received.



Note: The same Blood of Christ that forgives our sins also forgives those who have sinned against us.

4. Jesus' Understanding of worship differs from the woman in what way(s)?

#### The Woman's Emphasis:

- Tradition She focused of what people had always done or said about the worship of God.
- Location She was more concerned about the right place instead of the right heart.

## **Jesus Emphasis:**



- Spiritual/Truthful He is more concerned about the heart of worship that comes from the heart.
- On God Worship About and For Him no matter the location.

- 5. Differences of Opinion can cause conflict. How does Jesus get past this?
- <u>Listen to Others:</u> Jesus let the Woman talk and give her thoughts about how she felt.
- Look For Opportunities: Jesus used woman's conversation about water and physical thirst to lead her into Spiritual things.
- Let God Lead: Make sure that that our thoughts and speech are lead by God's Word and Spirit.



Note: Many conflicts can be avoided, if we can just sit down, talk and listen.

- 6. Church buildings are an important place for worship, but Jesus talks about worship anywhere. Why do you think that is?
  - God is Spirit: Because He is Spirit, God os not limited to any one location He is everywhere.
- God is Sovereign: God is ruler of everything and all people and is deserving of all worship.
- God Seeks Worshippers: God is looking for His people to worship Him, not just in church but everywhere.



Note: The church is not building, but it is the people. This means that we can worship Jesus wherever we are.

- 7. What does it mean to worship God "in Spirit and in Truth" (vs. 24)? How does our Church worship in Spirit and in Truth?
  - In Spirit: Worship with all of our mind, strength, soul and emotions (The heart) guided by the Holy Spirit.
- <u>In Truth</u>: Worship with integrity of heart giving God glory according to how He is revealed in His Word.



Note: Worship is not just something we do on Sundays in Church, but it is a lifestyle

- 7. What does it mean to worship God "in Spirit and in Truth" (vs. 24)? How does our Church worship in Spirit and in Truth?
  - <u>Biblical Participation:</u> Everyonee is invited to join in the worship of God (Prayer, Singing, Giving, ...)
  - <u>Biblical Practice</u>: Our Worship is orderly, guided by the Holy Spirit and the Word of God.
  - <u>Biblical Preaching:</u> We are a church that has a very high view of Scripture. Our preaching and teaching is based on sound doctrine.

"We are saved to worship God. All that Christ has done in the past and all that He is doing now leads to this one end." A. W. Tozer



8. Worship is a requirement of serving Jesus. How can we make personally worshipping Jesus a part of our daily activities?

## **How We Can Worship Jesus Daily**

- <u>Personal/Family Devotions:</u> Taking time in the Morning or Evening to read the Word Pray/Sing. (Our Daily Bread, Bible Reading plans...)
- <u>Praise Break:</u> During your lunch or break on your job sing praise songs and pray to the Lord.



• <u>Traveling Praise:</u> Listen to praise music, preaching in your car, on your phone, etc.

# **Keys For Living**

- For believers, the most important thing is to worship God. We have been created to live a lifestyle of worship.
- While there many ways to worship God, there is only One God to worship. We must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.



 As we seek to magnify Jesus in worship our differences with one another along with the issues of this world will be minimize.

