



Believe

JOHN

MESSAGE

STUDY GUIDE

GROUP MATERIAL

SONGS

Community Group Material:

Bible Reading: John 4:13-26

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13 Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, **14** but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." **15** The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water." **16** Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." **17** The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; **18** for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." **19** The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. **20** Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." **21** Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. **22** You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. **23** 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. **24** God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." **25** 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." **26** Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

Sermon Summary:

After the Samaritan woman asks for the living water, Jesus responds by asking her to bring her husband. Once she finds out that Jesus knows everything about her past, she perceives that he is a prophet. She then asks him about the right place of worship. This is probably not merely a way to

avoid the issue of her marriages but is actually a pressing concern she has. The Jews and Samaritans disagree about worship location and she wants a clear answer. Jesus indicates that the time or age has changed and therefore worship, including the “right place” has changed. It is no longer about place but it is about a person. Worship is directed toward the Father and needs to be worship that corresponds to God who is Spirit. Worship must be in spirit and truth. The writer of this gospel does not elaborate on what this looks like. This should cause us to realize that worship has a larger scope than we might think. True worship is directed to God the Father and is according to who He is. He is Spirit and in Him is truth. Let us be those who seek to worship Him according to who He is. The Father seeks such true worshipers.

Discussion:

1. We might consider the woman’s question about the correct place of worship to be avoidance regarding her marital situation. What might be another way of understanding why she asks this question?
2. Why does Jesus seem to drop the topic about her living situation when she asks about the right place to worship? Does he care about her past? Discuss.
3. What does “... the hour is coming, and is now here” mean?
4. “ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” How would you explain to someone what this means?
5. How would you describe a true worshiper?
6. How do you understand the statement “The Father is seeking such people (true worshipers) to worship him?”
7. Share with each other some occasions that you consider were times of true worship.

End with Prayer:

- Pray for a renewed understanding and desire to be a true worshiper both for yourself and for the church members.