



Sunday Sermon Notes: Sept. 9, 2018

WORSHIP is an encounter with the living God! – v. 1-7

Often, we'll meet God in unplanned or unexpected ways. There's no way to prepare for that. God just suddenly breaks in and changes everything. He invites us to respond to Him. Our choice reflects what we really believe.

Worship is an active response to God. – v. 8-12

It seeks to draw out of us the passion and energy that lies latent within. Jesus asks something simple – a cup of water. The woman, clearly intending to hide by coming at this time of day, responds with a query about ethnicity. Jesus invites her to reconsider offering her instead "Living Water." Such an offer sounded too good to be true. She had been hurt before. She knew what it meant to be lied to, esp by a man. She wasn't about to be taken in again, esp not by a foreigner! Her response so far is NO! But it doesn't have to stay there. In his kindness, Jesus gives her the opportunity to reconsider.

Worship calls me to intimacy. – v. 13- 18

A full surrender of all pretense and falsehood, it calls me to completely give myself to my Lord. Jesus speaks to the woman about "Living Water." That means something far different than anything she's known before. To learn more, she's going to have to lower some of her barriers and allow Jesus inside.

Worship calls me to conviction of my sin and brokenness – v. 19-21

The holy light of God's love for me exposes the true brokenness of my life. It's uncomfortable. Conviction calls me to see the ugliness my choices have brought. The pain I've inflicted and the grief ILL: Paul Eshleman, the man responsible for distributing millions of copies of the Jesus film around the world tells the story about one time the movie was shown in Mozambique. Although most of the people had never heard of Jesus before, they fell in love with Jesus through the film. When the crucifixion scene came, they began to weep and wail and many rushed toward the screen in an effort to help Jesus and say they were sorry for their sins. Their cries and the dust they stirred up made it impossible to finish the film before they dealt with these grief-stricken convicted sinners.

Worship calls me to awe and reverence – v. 22-26

Different from some of the experiences some have had in other contexts, when I see God for who He really is in worship, awe and reverence are appropriate and expected.

Worship calls me to joy in God's grace! – v. 28a

When I truly understand what God's grace has saved me from, I begin to see God for the loving Father he really is. Not a tyrant or mean-spirited waiting to crush me at His first opportunity.

Worship compels me to evangelism – v. 28b, 42

Once the reality of Jesus' true identity was clear to her, she couldn't WAIT to tell people – the very people she had been hiding from when she came in the first place!