**Worshipping in Spirit and Truth**

**Read John 4. 15-26**

God is Spirit, and his worshippers must worship him in spirit and truth.

John 4.24

This is towards the end of Jesus discussion with the woman at the well. In an attempt to carry on the meeting, she highlights the differences Samaritan worship, and Temple worship.

The Samaritans only used the first five books in our Old Testament, and disregarded the Psalms, Wisdom Literature, and Prophecy. Therefore their theology was truncated. Over the years people from other nations had brought their gods into Samaria, and their mantra was that the gods should be feared. Thus the Samaritans had a very limited understanding of God, and therefore struggled to know how to worship. Samaritan worship was;

1/ False worship is Selective; what are the consequences of being selective in the way we read the bible? Do we have favourite Scripture, and parts of the bible we ignore?

2/ False worship is ignorant worship; we worship in spirit and in ‘truth’. Our hearts and our minds must be in sync together. What does this mean to you?

3/ False worship is superstitious worship. Its like doing something because its dangerous not to. You walk around a ladder rather than under it, or never move into a house which is numbered 13! Sometimes we worship because we think we should, out of habit, or even out of fear. What causes you to worship?

4/ If God is spirit, then what does it mean for our worship? Does it matter where we are? Does it matter how we worship?

5/ If worship is ‘worth-ship’; how do we show worth to God?

6/ How do we worship outside of Sunday Church?

7/ Are we supposed to enjoy worship? Or should we worship fearfully?

8/ What is your ‘sacrifice of worship’?

Spend some time in silent worship…