

## **Worship in Spirit and Truth**

### **2. How Can I Worship In Spirit?**

#### **John 4:20-24**

#### **What does it mean to worship in spirit?**

"God is spirit" (v.24) — which means God is not limited to one location; He is a spiritual being who can be worshiped anywhere .

For us to have spirit means we have Holy-Spirit-given, heart-felt desires. They are heart-felt desires (John 11:33) that are Holy-Spirit-given (John 3:6).

So for worship to be true there must be Spirit-given, heart-felt desires and feelings and passions.

#### **What does worship in spirit feel like?**

It feels joy and pleasure in God (Psa 16:11).

It feels awe and wonder before God (Psa 46:10).

It feels sorrow for sin because it's dishonored God (Psa 51:17).

It feels longing for God (Psa 63:1).

#### **What about those times when we feel nothing?**

Don't ignore your lack of feelings —

Because lack of feels shows there's a problem (Mat 15:8),

And because the Holy Spirit can change your feelings (Gal 5:22).

#### **How do we go about worshipping in spirit?**

Come to Jesus with your lack of feelings — and trust Him to help you.

Confess to Jesus the state of your heart — and receive assurance of forgiveness from Him.

Pray earnestly for the work of the Spirit to change your feelings.

Set your mind on the truth of who God is in Christ.



## **HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING**

*(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)*

What was the Holy Spirit saying to you Sunday through these Scriptures?

What questions, ideas, objections, encouragements did you come away with?

Does it make sense that worship in spirit means worshiping with Spirit-given, heart-felt desires? Why or why not?

What do you usually do when you aren't feeling worship? Give up? Go through the motions? Something else?

Does it make sense that lack of feelings shows there's a problem in my heart? Why or why not?

Which of the four steps (on the last point) is easiest for you to do? Which is hardest? What can you do about that?

Have you had a time when you weren't feeling it — and you experienced the Holy Spirit changing your heart? What happened? What did YOU do? What did HE do? What was the result?

Do you agree that we should always worship passionately — either passionate because we are feeling love for Jesus — or passionate because we long to feel love for Jesus? Why or why not? What gets in the way of that?

How would worship at our home group be more in spirit? What could we do?

What is God calling you to do because of this Scripture?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.

