



### Message Three: THE WORSHIP GOD SEEKS

*Pastor Mike Chapman*

*If God knows that your intention is to worship him with every part of your being, He has promised to cooperate with you. On his side are love and grace, the promises and the atonement, the constant help and the presence of the Holy Spirit. On our side there is determination, seeking, yielding, believing...There really is no argument. We know what God wants us to be. He wants us to be worshipers!*

-- A. W. Tozer

***Whatever Happened to Worship***

Today, we come to a very important encounter in the life of Jesus. Jesus has a conversation with a woman of scandalous reputation in a hate-filled region of ancient Israel. It is in this setting that he takes us to the very heart of God and the core essence of what true worship is.

John 4:21-24, Jesus said, "**Believe me**, woman. *The time is coming when neither in Jerusalem nor on this mountain will you actually worship the Father...The time is coming when the true worshipers will **worship the Father** in spirit and truth, and that time is here already. You see, the Father too is actively seeking such people to worship him. **God is spirit**, and those who worship him **must worship in spirit and truth**." (NCV)*

## GOD IS SEEKING

God seeks two things: **the lost** and **true worshipers**.

Luke 19:10, *The Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.* (NLT)

John 4:23, *The Father too is actively seeking such people to worship him.* (NCV)

The purpose of evangelism is to increase the company of **worshipers**.

## UNDERSTANDING THE WORSHIP GOD SEEKS

Worship is a whole-life response to God's greatness and glory.

Jesus said that worship is not about **where** but about **who** and **how**.

Because God is **spirit**, true worship is **in spirit**.

Worship is not merely an external act that you can accomplish by going to a place.

Worship is an experience of the **heart**.

In the powerful act of salvation, God stirs our souls to live again, giving us the capacity of intimacy with him.

In the new birth God **restores** our ability to connect with him and to worship him with all of our heart.

Because God is **Father**, true worship can be **in truth**.

To worship in truth is to worship "with authenticity," to worship "unconcealed," to worship with integrity.

I must bring the "**real me**" not the "**holy me**" to the act of worship for God to be pleased.

Our Father is not **threatened** by our brokenness or our doubts or our sin.

There is no other way to worship but in spirit and truth.

Jesus said we **must** worship this way.

### "BELIEVE ME"

In the conversation with the Samaritan woman about worship, Jesus begins with the words, "Believe me."

This is where all true worship begins.

The only way to possibly worship in spirit and in truth is to **awaken** to Jesus' **invitation**.