

Oriented to Stay on the Surface:

- Our **schedules & societal** patterns keep us on the surface
- Our **fears** keep us on the surface
- Our **theology/religion** keeps us on the surface

Jesus is a **soul hunter** ... and our souls were made for **worship**.

John 4:3-6

He {Jesus} left Judea and departed again for Galilee. ⁴ And he **had to** pass through Samaria. ⁵ So he came to **a town of Samaria** called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside **the well**. It was about the sixth hour.

John 4:7-9

A **woman from Samaria** came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸ (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, **a Jew**, ask for a drink from me, **a woman of Samaria**?" (For Jews have **no** dealings with Samaritans.)

Worship has to do with **real life** because worship is **life**.

God/Jesus never lets the **problem** overshadow the **potential**.

Worship involves **astonishment** ...

... But God is always trying to raise our **astonishment**.

John 4:10

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the **gift of God**, and **who it is** that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you **living water**."

John 4:11-12

The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹² **Are you greater** than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock."

Surface is easier—more familiar, more visible, **more natural** → more comfortable

"Are you greater ..." Battle:

- Our **flesh**
- Our **traditions & customs**
- Our **understanding** (vs. the spiritual)

John 4:13-14

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.”

John 4:15

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.”

- **Confession of her need but misunderstanding about its location**
 - **Focus on the physical**
 - **The convenience trap**

John 4:16-18

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.”

- **Jesus touches the most sensitive & vulnerable part of her life ... Why?**
 - **Her pitiful pursuit → failing water!**
 - **The quickest way to the heart is through a **wound** ...**
 - **Concealed sin keeps us from **seeing** ...**
 - **Repeated sin reveals deep need**
- **Jesus **never** condemns her but sets before her a **better/best choice**!**

John 4:19-20

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.”

- **We all have **tactics to divert** (*evasion, aversion, distraction*)**
- **She puts the focus on the form (*place, style = externals*) of worship.**
 - **It is easy to “**worship our worship**”**

John 4:21-22

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**.”

John 4:23

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.

Truth → of God; Who He is as most clearly revealed in Jesus

- **Focus & captivation on Jesus as the Christ, Son of God**

John 4:24

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in **spirit and truth**.”

Spirit → our inmost selves; inner persons

Worship in spirit & truth:

- **Furnace:** the spirit of a human being
- **Fuel:** truth of God; Jesus as the Christ
- ***Fire:** Holy Spirit ~ vital presence of God
- **Heat:** heart-level affections

“Heat” will be expressed: “IN reflected OUT”

- **Responsive spirit**
- **Biblical truth**
- **Spiritual affections**
- **Biblical order**

Additional Considerations:

- **Human personality**
- **Must not be restricted by fear of people and/or self-conscious**

John 4:25-26

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**.”

1) Give priority to the **internal (spirit) over **externals****

2) True worship comes at a **cost → Resolve to **pay it** ... it’s worth it!**

“Deeper, Deeper” {Charles Price Jones}

Deeper, deeper in the love of Jesus

Daily let me go ...

Deeper, deeper! Blessed Holy Spirit,

Take me deeper still

‘Til my life is wholly lost in Jesus,

And His perfect will.