## **John 4:23**

# WORSHIP

#### UNDERSTANDING THE WORD

- Proskuneo- "to bow before" or literally "to kiss the ground before"
- Latreuo- sugests serving either God or people
- ► These two words show the concept of worship in the New Testament has two connotations
  - 1. Coming to God in ways he has commanded us to offer our praise
  - 2. Living in a way that serves and honors him

### WORSHIP IS MAJESTIC

- ▶ It is simple to assemble, but it is even easier to forget why we are here.
- ▶ We might assemble because it is God's expectation for us (Hebrews 10:25)
- ► We might gather because of the beautiful voices praising the Lord (Ephesians 5:19)
- ▶ He is our God-we are His people- the flock under his care

#### WORSHIP'S DESTRUCTION

- ► Is it possible for something as precious as worship to become poisonous for our souls?
- ▶ We see Stephen mentions Moses, Israel, and idols.
- In the days of the desert, Israel chose to worship a "god" they made.
- ► How easy is it for us to shine our "worship" on the undeserving.

## WORSHIP IN JOY

- ▶ In Matthew 14, Jesus saves the lives of his apostles during a storm on the sea of Galilee.
- ► After the winds died down the scripture says, "... those in the boat worshiped him, saying, 'Truly, you are the Son of God'" (Matthew 14:33)
- When good things happen, this should be our first response.

#### WORSHIP IN SORROW

- God doesn't expect us to worship Him only in the good times. He desires our worship in the bad times as well.
- King David's example in 2 Samuel 12. The "man after God's own heart" reaches deep and reminds us to be faithful, even when we want to be faithless.
- David worshiped (2 Samuel 12:20)
- He gives honor to whom honor is due, even when his life is consumed by sorrow

#### WASTED WORSHIP?

- "wasted talent"
- ► Paul says we can do the same thing with our worship
- ► Any worship we offer to God should be in spirit and truth (John 4:24)
- Paul argues that we are to become "living sacrifices", we are to give up what we want for

#### APPLICATION

- Worship is Majestic Realize why worship is so majestic. It is our privilege to come before God and worship him
- ► <u>Worship's Destruction</u>- Make a conscious effort to rededicate your energy to the only worthy recipient
- ► Worship in Joy- Worship God for every good thing that happens to you

#### APPLICATION

► Worship in Sorrow - Refuse to allow any burden to betray your worship with God

► Wasted Worship- Do not let "worship" to be confined to a one-hour worship week

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