Training the Mind to Worship
Words to the Woman

- Problem: Spiritually impaired thinking
  - Theme in early section of John’s Gospel
    - Body of Jesus (2:18-21)
    - Born again (3:3-4)
    - Water quenching eternal thirst (4:13-15)
    - Food to do the will of God (4:32-34)
Words to the Woman

• Problem: Spiritually impaired thinking
  – Woman’s thinking on wrong level (vs. 20)
  – Jesus explains true relationship with God (vv. 23-24)
  • Worship is not dependent on place
  • Worship comes from mind set on God
Words to the Woman

• How is a *spiritual mind* developed?

Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God [...] Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit cannot enter the kingdom of God.

(3:3-5)

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. God is spirit, and those who worship him *must worship* in spirit and truth.” (4:23-24)
Words to the Woman

• How is a *spiritual mind* developed?

I will *sprinkle clean water on you*, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I *will give you a new heart, and a new spirit* I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. -- Ezekiel 26:25-27
Words to the Woman

• How is a *spiritual mind* developed?
  – Begins with true conversion
    • Regenerated by and focused on **God**

He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the **washing** of regeneration and **renewal of the Holy Spirit** – Titus 3:5
Words to the Woman

• How is a *spiritual mind* developed?
  – Not conformed, but transformed
    • Transformation is only way I can meet Him in worship
Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Through Him...
• We can approach God
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- We have intercession
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Through Him...
- We can approach God
- We have intercession
- We are clean
And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. For **through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father**. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, **grows into a holy temple** in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. – Ephesians 2:17-22

**He is our Temple**

- We are joined with Him
- Place doesn’t matter
  - Matthew 18:20
Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. – Hebrews 4:14-16

We Can Approach the Throne with Boldness!
Meaningful Worth-ship

• Picture of Heaven on Earth

Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created. – Revelation 4:11
Meaningful Worth-ship

• Picture of Heaven on Earth

And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.” (5:8-10)
Meaningful Worth-ship

• Picture of Heaven on Earth

Saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” (5:12)
Meaningful Worth-ship

• View of God’s *worth* demonstrated in worship
  – Meaningful worship is appreciation for Him
  – No drudgery or obligation; only gratitude
What is God Worth to You?