Sermon Notes

Text: John 4:20-24

Intro:

2 Types of Worship: Secular Worship and Spirit & Truth Worship

Everyone Was Designed To Worship

1.) Fallacies

Fallacy 1 “Proximity To" vs “Intimacy With”

Fallacy 2 Worship is Always God-Focused

2.) Facts

Fact 1 Decision vs Emotional Reaction

Fact 2 Participation vs Observation

Fact 3 Revives the Soul

Connect Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. Most of us have memories of attending church services when we were young. Tell a funny story of a childhood memory (or otherwise) that happened during a worship service. (Ie. getting into trouble, funny or embarrassing things happening, etc.)

2. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?

Study & Discussion:

1. Jesus teaches the woman at the well that the worship God desires isn't confined to a specific time or place but is an issue of "spirit and truth". (John 4:23) What do you understand "spirit and truth" to mean and how is this distinct from "a certain time and place"?

2. Martin Luther once said "The human heart is a factory that produces idols." We all worship something or someone, whether we are thinking about it or not. How can we know whether something has become an idol in our lives?

3. Worship within the context of a church gathering has evolved over the years as culture has changed. Hymns used to be banned because they were written to the tune of popular pub songs! In what ways have you seen how gathered worship has changed for the better? What do we need to reclaim from the past?

4. In John 4:13,14 Jesus says that those who drink the water he gives them will experience "springs of living water rising up within." How does this correspond to the teaching that authentic worship is not about emotions or feelings?

Practice this week:

Find a time and place to worship in spirit and truth. Alone or with a friend, or with your family, or with our church.