

**Life Group Notes & Discussion Guide, August 3rd, 2025**

Series: **“Freedom in Christ”**

Message: **“Freedom to Worship”**

Sermon Text: **John 4:16-26**; Old Testament Text: **Psalms 95:1-11**; New Testament Text: **Ephesians 5:15-21**. Read **John 4:16-26** as you listen to the sermon, then answer the questions below.

1. Read **John 4:16-18**. Why do you think Jesus wanted the woman to bring her husband to see Him?
2. The woman told Jesus a half-truth. What was she trying to hide?
3. Read **John 4:19-20**. Why do you think the woman brought up the question asking where the proper place to worship was?
4. Read **John 4:21**. What is Jesus declaring in this statement?
5. Read **John 4:22**. Was Jesus’s statement here an accurate reflection of all Jews? Explain.
6. Read **John 4:23-24**. What did Jesus mean when He said, *the hour is coming, and is now here*?

7. What did Jesus mean when He said, *when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth?*”
8. Read **John 4:25**. Despite the woman’s promiscuous ways, what did her statement here reveal about her?
9. Read **John 4:26**. How would you have felt if Jesus had spoken these words to you? Would you have believed Him?
10. What will you remember most from this message?

### **Discussion Guide for Your Life Group Meeting**

- I. At your Life Group meeting, first read **Psalm 95:1-11** aloud. It can be helpful to have several people each read one verse from their Bible. This helps people feel involved and can also introduce some interesting discussion if several translations are used. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
1. According to **Psalm 95:1**, what is it about our Lord that causes us to sing and make a joyful noise to Him?
  2. According to **Psalm 95:2**, what action is guaranteed to bring us into the Lord's presence?
  3. What is supposed to be true of the noise we make before the Lord?
  4. What differentiates our God from the little *g gods*? (See **Psalm 95:3**.)
  5. In **vv. 4-6**, the psalmist tells of some things that elevate our God above the *little g gods*. List them.
  6. According to **verse 6**, what is the proper way for us to approach the Lord?
  7. Read **Psalm 95:7-11**. Then read **Numbers 20:1-13**. According to the footnotes in the Bible what do Meribah and Massah mean?
  8. What happened at Meribah or Massah that caused God to make the Israelites wander another 40 years in the wilderness?
  9. Have there ever been times in your life in which you've quarreled with or tested God? What was the outcome?
- II. Next read **Ephesians 5:15-21**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
1. How would you paraphrase **Eph. 5:15-16**?
  2. How would you explain *the will of the Lord*?
  3. Paul contrasts *being unwise (getting drunk)* with *being wise (being filled with the Spirit)*. Are there any similarities between being drunk & being filled with the Spirit? What are the differences between the two?
  4. When you read **Eph. 5:19-21**, how does it make you feel?
  5. Is there a time in your week when you feel you are perhaps doing what this passage commands?
- III. Read **John 4:16-26**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
1. Read **John 4:16-18**. Why do you think Jesus wanted the woman to bring her husband to see Him?
  2. The woman told Jesus a half-truth. What was she trying to hide?

3. Read **John 4:19-20**. Why do you think the woman brought up the question asking where the proper place to worship was?
4. Read **John 4:21**. What is Jesus declaring in this statement?
5. Read **John 4:22**. Was Jesus's statement here an accurate reflection of all Jews? Explain.
6. Read **John 4:23-24**. What did Jesus mean when He said, *the hour is coming, and is now here?*
7. What did Jesus mean when He said, *when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth?"*
8. How well would you say you do in worshipping Jesus this way?
9. Read **John 4:25**. Despite the woman's promiscuous ways, what did her statement here reveal about her?
10. Read **John 4:26**. How would you have felt if Jesus had spoken these words to you? Would you have believed Him?