



Worship in Spirit: Created for Connection

Brent Moody · John 4:20–24 · Series: **Worship in Spirit**

INTRODUCTION

- Worship is not just an act. Worship is about connection.
- Worship is our spirit responding to God's spirit. It's aligning our hearts with his will. It is connecting our minds to his purposes.
- These various elements that we often call worship, those items themselves, they have an important function, but the reality is if the heart is not engaged, they aren't doing anything.

1 The Spirit of God Gives Life

Genesis 2:7; Isaiah 42:5; Ecclesiastes 12:7

- The idea of the spirit, and this is true actually in Hebrew and in Greek, is the idea of animating power. It can be wind, it can be spirit or breath.
- Then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.
- There is no life without the spirit. Without God breathing life into us, we are just an empty shell.
- And so we are embodied spirits. We have a body in this physical realm, and within that body, God has created us with the Spirit.

2 We Have No Life Apart From Him

Ephesians 2:1–5; Romans 8:6–11; Romans 8:16

- We have no life apart from him. Without the divine breath, without his force and without his power, we are dead in our trespasses and sins.
- For to set the mind on the flesh is death. But to set the mind on the spirit is life and peace.
- The idea of worshiping in spirit has partially to do, really in a big way, to do with submission. It is submitting to the will of God.
- The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. This is about identity.

3 True Worship Involves Spiritual Connection

Amos 5; Ephesians 5:18–19; 1 Corinthians 6:17

- But the heart is the fundamental aspect of this, the inner man, the inner being. Am I connecting to God in the spiritual realm in a spiritual way? Or am I merely going through motions?
- Because their hearts were not right, and there was no spiritual connection between God and those who were supposed to be his people.
- And so worship is our spirit reaching for God's spirit. It is submitting to the will of God.

- Don't be drunk with wine, but be filled with the Spirit, singing and making melody to the Lord in your heart.
- But what truly matters to God is the sincerity and truth that's coming from the heart.

4 Spirit Touching Spirit: The Bluetooth Connection

John 4:23; Ephesians 2:2

- But all of this is seeking this connection with God. It is spirit-touching spirit. We want this relationship with him.
- His signal is out. He's seeking. Bluetooth signal is on. What he's wanting is for us to get that signal and connect to him.
- We begin stepping back from God and going the wrong direction. We start to have signal problems.
- They connected to the wrong Bluetooth signal. They're following the Prince of the Power of the air.

5 A Disconnected Spirit Produces Vain Worship

Isaiah 29:13; Matthew 15:8; 2 Timothy 3:5

- If the spirit is life, and there is no spirit in what I'm doing, that means it's death. It's empty.
- This people draw near with their mouth and they honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me.
- We can say the right things, do the right actions, but still have vain empty worship.

6 He Yearns Jealously Over the Spirit in Us

James 4:4–5; Romans 8:16–17

- Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the scripture says he yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us? He wants your spirit.
- Just because we have ears doesn't mean we're tuned in. It doesn't mean we listen. It doesn't mean our frequencies are matching.
- So Christianity and worship itself, it's not about becoming a better you or the best you can be. It's about being transformed into the image of the Creator.

THE CHALLENGE

Am I willing to lean into that reality and seek that connection with God in my life? I'm begging you to do that this morning.

MY NOTES