

One BRMC Small Group Study

Worship in Spirit and in Truth

Participant's Guide

Please note that this study guide accompanies the pulpit sermon on 11 October 2020.

Scripture Passage:

John 4:23-24

Context:

On Laity Sunday (formerly known as "Laymen's Day"), Methodist churches in Singapore recognise the work and mission of all laity in the church and in their personal lives. Laity Sunday offers an occasion for lay people of all ages to pause and consider again their own unique call to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It recognises the value and participation of the laity in all aspects of worship and service; a concept that was modelled perfectly by Jesus when he washed his disciples' feet and when he engaged with the Samaritan woman at the well.

The message on Laity Sunday extols the importance of knowing God and presents a vision for BRMC to be a place where people in their uniqueness would fit in and find their spiritual family.

As we enter into this study, may we join in celebrating the ministry of the Holy Spirit in our lives so that we can worship our God in the Spirit and in truth.

Introductory

1. In the scripture passage (John 4:23-24), who does Jesus say are the kind of worshippers that the Father seeks?
2. Read John 4:19-21. In this conversation between Jesus and the Samaritan woman, why is the location or place of worship an issue of concern? How does Jesus steer the conversation out of this controversy?

Reflection

3. What is the essence of worshipping the Father to you? What does it mean for you to "worship" God?

4. Can you identify yourself as someone who worships God in the Spirit and in truth? What does it mean to worship in the Spirit and in truth?

Application

5. What steps or disciplines can you adopt individually and as a group to be the worshipper that the Father seeks? What steps can we take to grow to worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth?

- Some suggestions that the preacher made are:
 - Spend time with God, Monday to Sunday, 24/7, or as much as we are able;
 - Read God's word;
 - Worship together even for the online OneBRMC service;
 - What we put into His tithe and our offering;
 - Time and talent to serve in the local church (**including serving on the Covid Crew**);
 - To love others like how Jesus loved the Samaritan woman.

- As the church begins to gradually and safely reopen for physical gatherings, do you plan to sign up for some of these on-site services? As you know, additional manpower is required in running these services due to health and safety requirements. Would you consider volunteering on the Covid crew for the on-site service that you plan to attend? In this way, you would both be attending the service, and also helping the church to reopen safely and smoothly. If you would like to volunteer, please register to join the Covid Crew: www.brmc.org/covid-19-crew



Prayer

6. Write out a prayer for yourself based on what you have heard and learned from this session.

- (a) What is in your heart for yourself?

- Perhaps you may want to bring a struggle to Christ today.

"Father in heaven, I come to Your cross today to release this burden of _____ that I am struggling with. Father, I trust that through the power of the cross, I have victory over this struggle. May You fill me with Your peace that surpasses all understanding and Your reassurance that with Your power from Your love, I can overcome any struggle.
In Jesus' name. Amen"

(b) What is in your heart for others?

- Perhaps you feel led to respond to serve with your talents or to serve outside your comfort zone.

“Heavenly Father, I thank you for this calling that You have placed in my heart. Through the power of Your Holy Spirit, may You reveal Your will to me clearly and fully. I pray for an open door and the courage to step out in faith to serve Your purpose and plans for me and for others. As I serve, may my service be an outpouring of Your love and for Your glory.

In Jesus’ name. Amen.”