

### I. REVIEW/INTRO

#### A. Learning to Breathe

- We don't really think about breathing – natural and involuntary
- Breathing is vital and a matter of life and death
- Hard to live a “normal” life without good oxygen levels

**Job 33:4 (NLT)** For the Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

**Just like breathing is vital to our physical well-being, worship is vital to our spiritual well being**

**Psalm 150:6 (NIV) <sup>6</sup> Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord.**

#### B. Why aren't you looking for me?

- Adam and Eve broke the one rule God gave – and then asked where are you?
  - Why aren't you looking for me?

**Psalm 14:2 (NLT)** The Lord looks down from heaven on the entire human race; he looks to see if anyone is truly wise, if anyone seeks God.

**Psalm 14:2 (MSG)** God sticks his head out of heaven. He looks around. He's looking for someone not stupid—one man, even, God-expectant, just one God-ready woman.

- God is looking for people who are looking for Him

### II. GOD IS SEARCHING

#### A. Jesus and the woman at the well (many great points but she asks a relevant question)

**John 4:19-20 (NKJV) <sup>19</sup> The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.”**

- The more your worship is about your style, your likes or your preferences the less likely you'll be to really worship
- She's asking which mountain, who's right? Jesus replied, you're missing the point

**John 4:21-23 (NKJV) <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. <sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. <sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.**



B. To be a true worshipper you need to familiar with two words – Spirit and Truth

Illus- like two banks of a river – spirit and truth – need them both

C. True worship has a spiritual component to it

- True worship is breathing in the breath and presence of God and the exhale is what is seen, it's the outer proof, it's the reality of God

### III. HERE'S THE TRUTH

A. Why behind the what

1. God gets to call the shots

**Psalm 150:1-2 (NLT) <sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heaven! <sup>2</sup> Praise him for his mighty works; praise his unequalled greatness!**

- Seven Hebrew words for Praise – hallelujah. Means – To shine, hence to make a show, to boast and thus be clamorously foolish, to rave and celebrate

2. Praise is our purpose

- Church isn't always about you

**1 Peter 2:9 (NKJV) But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;**

**Luke 19:39-40 (MSG) <sup>39</sup> Some Pharisees from the crowd told him, "Teacher, get your disciples under control!" <sup>40</sup> But he said, "If they kept quiet, the stones would do it for them, shouting praise."**

3. Worship Changes everything

**Habakkuk 3:17 (TLB) <sup>17</sup> Even though the fig trees are all destroyed, and there is neither blossom left nor fruit; though the olive crops all fail, and the fields lie barren; even if the flocks die in the fields and the cattle barns are empty,**

- The TRUTH is that sometimes life is hard

**Habakkuk 3:18 (TLB) <sup>18</sup> yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will be happy in the God of my salvation. <sup>19</sup> The Lord God is my strength; he will give me the speed of a deer and bring me safely over the mountains.**

- Worship is based on a choice not a feeling

4. Worship changes you

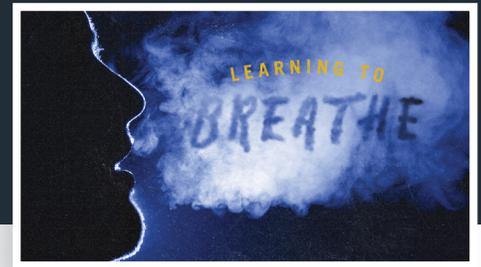


CHRISTIAN CENTER

## Learning to Breathe

Part 2  
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Here's the Truth



**Ezekiel 46:9 (TLB) <sup>9</sup> but when the people come in through the north passageway to sacrifice during the religious feasts, they must go out through the south passageway. Those coming in from the south must go out by the north. They must never go out the same way they come in, but must always use the opposite passageway.**

- God is teaching an O.T rule that would become a NT reality
- You come into the presence of God one way but, He's saying, I don't want you to leave the same way, **I want you to leave differently than you came in.**