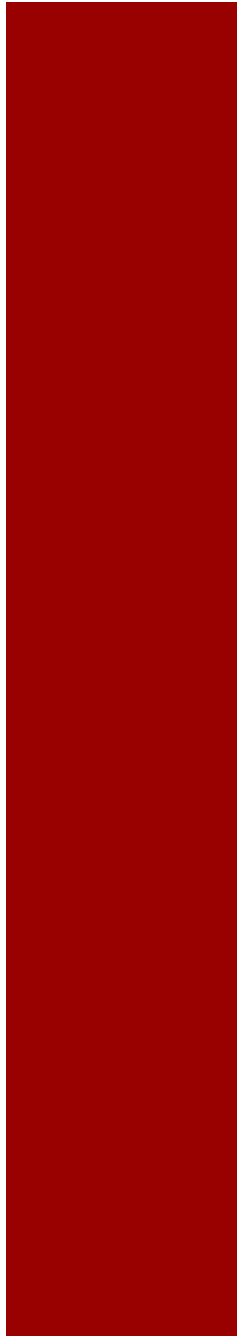




“Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?” – Jn. 4:12

# A Dialogue with God

Lessons in Prayer from a  
Samaritan Woman



# Lack of Understanding

- “‘How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?’ For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.” (Jn. 4:9)
- His words may not make sense
  - “Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep...” (Jn. 4:11)
  - EX: Three Holy Youth and Daniel



# Earthly Requests are the Beginning

- “Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw.”  
(Jn. 4:15)
- She progressed quickly



# Honesty in Prayer

- “I have no husband.” (Jn. 4:17)
- “The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth.”  
(Ps. 145:18)
- EX: David



## Ps. 31:22-24

“For I said in my haste,  
“I am cut off from before Your eyes”;  
Nevertheless You heard the voice of my  
supplications

When I cried out to You.  
Oh, love the Lord, all you His saints!  
For the Lord preserves the faithful,  
And fully repays the proud person.

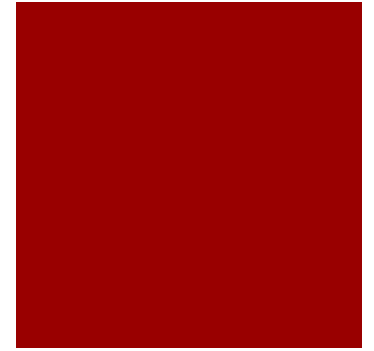
Be of good courage,  
And He shall strengthen your heart,  
All you who hope in the Lord.”

# Praise is Prayer



- “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet.”  
(Jn. 4:19)
- Praise is actually the highest form of prayers
  - “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory.” (Is. 6:3)
  - “...who has given to the earthly the praising of the Seraphim, receive from us also our voices, together with the invisible. Count us with the heavenly hosts.”  
(St. Gregory the Theologian, Liturgy)

# Praise is Prayer



- It is the work of all creation

“Praise Him, sun and moon;

Praise Him, all you stars of light!

Praise Him, you heavens of heavens,

And you waters above the heavens!

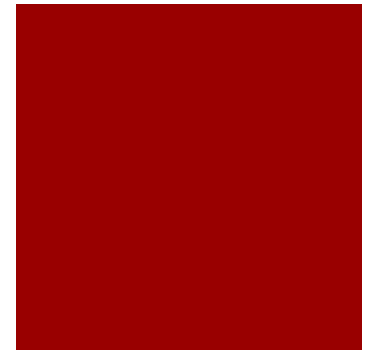
Let them praise the name of the Lord,

For He commanded and they were created.”

(Ps. 148:3-5)



# Knowing Whom You Worship



- “Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.” (Jn. 4:20)
- “You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews.” (Jn. 4:22)
- This is the true beginning

# King Jeroboam

- “Therefore the king asked advice, made two calves of gold, and said to the people, ‘It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are your gods, O Israel, which brought you up from the land of Egypt!’ And he set up one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan. Now this thing became a sin, for the people went to worship before the one as far as Dan. He made shrines on the high places, and made priests from every class of people, who were not of the sons of Levi.” (1 Kings 12:28-31)

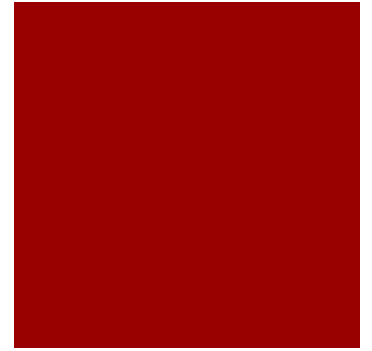


# Knowing Whom You Worship

- To whom do you pray?
- Bel, the Dragon, and Jehovah's Witnesses
- “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?” So they said, “Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “ But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” (Matt. 16:13-16)



# Summary



1. Lack of understanding
2. Earthly requests are the beginning
3. Honesty in Prayer
4. Praise is Prayer
5. Knowing whom you worship