

IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Copyright © Barry Chant 2016

This brief skit can be used to introduce or illustrate a message on the nature of worshipping God. It is appropriate for adults or young people. The players need to be lively, expressive and agile (Aquila falls to the floor at one point). Genders and names can be changed if necessary.

You can download and reproduce this script for personal use or for free distribution to groups such as your local church Bible study group or Christian fellowship. Please include the following acknowledgement: 'Copyright © 2016 by Barry Chant. Reproduced with permission from www.barrychant.com.'

Aquila (With folder in hand) What on earth did He mean by that?

Priscilla What did who mean by what?

A Jesus. It's here in our notes. Jesus said we must worship the Father in Spirit and truth.

P Well, spirit means, you know, spirit...mm...soul...that is, well, you know, that kind of thing

A See, Priscilla, you don't know either.

P What if it means the Holy Spirit?

A How?

P Well, A Q, maybe we can't worship properly on our own. Maybe we need the Holy Spirit's help.

A Aw, come on Priss. If Jesus meant the Holy Spirit, why didn't he say so? Anyway, doesn't the word 'spirit' also mean 'breath'?

P Good one, A Q. So now we have to worship in breath and truth. That makes a lotta sense.

A Yeah, fair enough, Priss. But the Holy Spirit bit's OK, I reckon.

P If you say so. Anyway, Aquila, I've worked out what the truth bit means.

A So what does it mean?

P It means...to be true.

A Well, thank you, Priscilla. I'd never have guessed.

P You know what I mean, Aquila.

A If I knew what you meant I wouldn't have asked in the first place.

P Well...truth is...er...the opposite of error!

A Well, that's true... Ha ha. But I still don't understand what Jesus meant. I wonder if He's saying that true worship comes from the heart?

P So now you're the expert, A Q. You tell me.

A What I mean is, if worship is just words and songs and creeds and stuff, so what?

P Yeah, so what... (Pause) So...? What...?

A Well, young Priss (*or, old girl*), I think Jesus means that worship must be genuine and sincere.

P And true, don't forget. And honest. And right. And ridgy-didge. And biblical. And authentic. And inerrant. And fair-dinkum. And factual. And correct. And proper. And spot on. And exact. And veritable. And real. And bona fide—

A OK! OK! I get the picture! What I really want to know is how we do it.

P Well, A Q, it says here in the notes that the word worship means to fall down.

A What, literally? Like this? (*Falls dramatically to the ground and lies spreadeagled on his back.*)

P Get up, you noodle-brain. It means to fall respectfully on your face.

A Like this? (*Begins to fall again.*)

P Well, yes...no!...I mean...I think He's talking about attitude. In spirit, remember?

A OK (*adopts pious worshipful pose, head bowed, hands clasped at chest level.*)

P No—attitude of heart and mind!

A Oh, you mean spirit and truth.

P Yes.

A Well, why didn't you say so in the first place?

P That's what I did say (*begins to walk off*)

A (*Also walking off*) No, you didn't, Priscilla. What you said was—

P What I said, A Q, was—

A You talked about—

P You just weren't listening—

Conversation continues as they leave the platform.