



Discussion Guide

July 1, 2018

Contrast: Idle Worship

Introduction: Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

An idol is anything that we pay more attention to than we pay to God. The more idols we allow in our lives, the more idle we will become. They don't have to be bad things either. Good stuff can distract us from our relationship with God. This week in your group, encourage one another to stay focused on God and to not be distracted.

Discussion Questions:

1. The word "idol" has changed a lot from the 1st century to today. Instead of statues and altars, idols look different today. Who was your childhood idol growing up? What was it that made them so incredible in your mind?
2. Take a moment and think about your life today. On a piece of scrap paper write down the 3-5 things that easily become idols and steal your focus from God. Don't worry, you aren't going to have to share or talk about anything you don't want to. Look over the list you come up with and see what jumps out to you. What good things are getting too much of your attention? Are there dangerous things that have crept into your life? After reflecting on this individually see if anyone has anything they'd like to share in the group.
3. Read Romans 12:1-2 What altar does God desire that we sacrifice our lives upon? What does Paul say will happen when we do not conform to the patterns of this world? In what ways is resisting the patterns of this world easy, and how is it difficult?

4. There's a strange virus that is affecting caterpillars in Great Britain. It essentially takes over caterpillar's nervous system and makes them climb up a branch or plant, and then makes the caterpillar explode. The virus then lands on other caterpillars nearby infecting them too. Researchers are calling it the Caterpillar Zombie Virus. How does focusing on things other than God potentially turn us into zombies? On top of that, how do we distract others when we aren't focused on God?

5. Finish group time by spending 5 minutes as a group talking about the qualities of God that mean the most to you right now. Maybe it is His love or His comfort. Share around the room and close by having someone pray, thanking God for His qualities and His goodness to us.

Moving Forward:

Take the list of 3-5 things that distract you from God with you this week. Keep it in your pocket or on your fun. Read it several times throughout the week. How are you doing? What has your attention day to day?