



10 Ways to Wreck Your Life

Part 4 - When Good Things Turn Bad

BREAKING THE ICE:

If you had an extra day every week how would you spend it and why?

If you had an extra \$10,000 every month what would you do with it and why?

Do you think that what you spend time and money on is an indication of what is important to you?

How do you know if something is too important to you?

GO TO THE SOURCE : READ Ex 20:4-6, Ez 14:3, Ex 32:3-4, 1 Thess 1:9

DIG A LITTLE DEEPER:

The 2nd Commandment.

- What is the 2nd commandment?
- Does the fact that it says, “You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything...” mean that creating any kind of art is sinful?
 - LEADERS NOTE: No we see clearly in the building of the tabernacle and temple that art was part of God’s design for the both. (Ex 25:17ff, 2 Chron 3:10)
- What was God’s reason for us not making any idols (v5)?
- God does not want us to worship idols. What does it mean to “worship” something? What qualifies as worship?
 - LEADERS NOTE: Worship means to ascribe worth to something. When we give our time, talents, treasures and affection to a deity, person, organization, team, or object we *might* be worshipping it. When we elevate something to the highest level in our lives we begin worshipping it.

Identifying Idols In Our World Today.

- According to Ezekiel 14:3 where can idols be found?
- What did the children of Israel make an idol out of in Ex 32:3-4?
- Does anyone know where they got the jewelry?
 - LEADERS NOTE: Ex 12:35-36 tells us that God caused the Egyptians to give them silver and gold. These gifts are what they used to make “a god” for themselves out of.
- What gifts or good things has God given you that you have made into an idol?
 - LEADERS NOTE: Examples could be: job, relationship, wealth, or influence.

- Have you ever said or thought “I will be happy/complete when _____?” If so what was that thing and do you think it had become an idol for you?
- Where do you spend your free time and extra money? Do you think you invest too much in that thing or person?

Overcoming Idol Worship

- How do you think we can overcome idols in our life?
- If you have identified an idol in your life through our discussion, what do you think you are hoping to gain from that idol (security? popularity? joy? peace?)?
- Read 1 Thess 1:9. How could Jesus take the place of that idol in your life?

MAKE IT COUNT:

What idol have you identified today?

How is Jesus more fulfilling than that idol?

What are you going to do this week to remind yourself of that truth?