



Week #1: Temple of Self

“You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God...”

Exodus 20:3-5 (NIV)

What is idolatry?

- When we elevate something from good to _____.

Theme Verse: *They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise!*

Romans 1:25 (NLT)

How does idolatry happen?

- The enemy plays to our disordered _____.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Ephesians 6:12 (NIV)

- Culture teaches us to worship the god of _____.

What are the fruits of our worship?

- Worshiping the god of self leads to _____.

Don't be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.

Galatians 6:7-8 (NLT)

- Worshiping Jesus as Lord leads to _____.

But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.

Galatians 6:8-9 (NLT)

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there.

Galatians 5:24 (NLT)

BOTTOM LINE: The heart of the issue is an issue of the _____.

Discussion Questions

1. Share what you considered to be your “most valuable possession” when you were 10 to 12 years old. What was so great about having that? Assuming it no longer is your MVP, what eventually replaced it as the new most valuable thing as you grew older?
2. One of the points from this week’s talk is that idolatry is when we elevate something that is good to a god, or our “most valuable possession.” Give some examples of good things in your life that can become idols when we elevate them beyond their actual worth.
3. How can we begin to ensure that we are not placing any gods before the one true God? What does this look like practically?

Recommended Resources

- *Gods at War: Defeating the Idols That Battle for Your Heart*, by Kyle Idleman
- *Live No Lies: Recognize and Resist the Three Enemies That Sabotage Your Peace*, by John Mark Comer

NIV (New International Version)

NLT (New Living Translation)

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For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Ephesians 6:12 (NIV)

- Culture teaches us to worship the god of SELF.

What are the fruits of our worship?

- Worshiping the god of self leads to SLAVERY AND DEATH.

Don't be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.

Galatians 6:7-8 (NLT)

- Worshiping Jesus as Lord leads to FREEDOM AND LIFE.

But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.

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Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there.

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