

Session



Personal Study Guide

The Unduplicated Image

June 28, 2020

Introduction

-  What signs do you imagine you would observe in a person that was unwittingly allowing something in his or her life to become an idol? How might their behavior change?

-  What impact do you think regularly participating in corporate and personal worship has on warding off idolatry in a person's life?

1. Accept No Substitutes (Exodus 20:4-5a)

-  When you think of idolatry, what images come to mind? Do you think of ancient or contemporary things?

-  Application: What practices or priorities do you see as drawing people's devotion or allegiance in our community?

2. God is a Jealous God (Exodus 20:5b)

-  How have you heard God's jealousy explained in your conversations with others? How does it impact your understanding to know that you are a beneficiary of God's jealousy?



Application: In what ways have you seen or experienced the manner in which a parent worships impact or shape the way their children worship? If you are a parent, how have you seen this in your own life?

3. God's Desire is for Covenant Love (Exodus 20:6)



Does the depiction of God, given here, being much more desirous to show love and bless those who are faithful line up with your perception of God in the Old Testament? How does His command not to create images actually give us freedom?



Application: How have you seen the connection between loving God and being obedient to His commands in relation to discipleship? Read John 14:15. How did Jesus link the two?

Conclusion



How do you best guard your heart from those subversive idols that would challenge God for ultimate importance in your life? Who have you given permission to hold you accountable and ask you hard questions in that regard? How real of a threat do you consider idolatry to be?



Who did you learn the most from in terms of what it means to be a worshiper? Why was that person so influential? Who might you have a similar impact on? What do you think they would see in the way you worship?



How would you explain God's jealousy? What does it mean for Him to be jealous for you? Why do you think it's so detrimental to worship wrong things? Can you give an example?

Daily Readings

- Monday - Exodus 20:4
- Tuesday - Psalm 135:15-18
- Wednesday - Romans 1:20-23

- Thursday - Psalm 115:1-8
- Friday - John 14:7
- Saturday - 1 Corinthians 8:6