

HOME connection

ST Unit: Modern Day Idols, Lesson 1

D6 Family Theme:
THE PROBLEM OF IDOLATRY

Objectives:

Know: God gives us all things to enjoy, but we must avoid allowing anything other than God to become an object of worship and purpose for living.

Think: Be guided by the awareness that God is the only one worthy of my worship.

Do: Worship God alone, avoiding any kind of idolatry.



READ: LISTEN TO GOD

Read Deuteronomy 5:7-9; 1 John 5:19-21; 1 Corinthians 10:14; Colossians 3:1-5. Idolatry may often look different today from Bible times, but it is just as real. These passages reveal God's commandment to worship Him exclusively—to have no other gods besides Him—and how we can avoid getting caught up in idolatry.



PRAY: TALK TO GOD

Worship God alone, acknowledging that He cannot be reduced to our level or to the level of anything He has created. Pray that you and your family will acknowledge the idols in your lives, so that you can focus your worship on the only God worthy of praise.



DO: WALK WITH GOD

Option 1: This week your child learned about the problem of idolatry. Idolatry might look different today than from Bible times, but it is still an issue that Christians deal with daily. God is the only one worthy of our worship, but the things of this world distract us. We sometimes devote our time to hobbies, material possessions, or loved ones instead of God. Show your children a stuffed animal or a stick. Ask them if they trust that that the stick will listen to them or take care of them. God is the only one who can do this, so we need to make sure we are putting Him first.

Option 2: Ask your family the following:

- *What do you think of when you hear the word idol or idolatry?* (Carved images, primitive people chanting and dancing around the statue of a god, celebrities, figures in popular culture, TV show titles, etc.)
- *What does idolatry look like in the world today?* (Some still worship carved images like Buddha, or carved African fetishes, but others worship material possessions, people, power, pleasure, etc.)
- *What are some things that can become idols to modern people?* (Cars, houses, money, luxury, fame, pornography, sex, athletic skill, entertainment, drugs/alcohol, etc.)

PRE-
SCHOOL

Today your child learned God told a prophet named Elijah to meet with King Ahab, an evil king who worshiped false gods, and God would send rain to them. Even though there had been no rain for over three years, he obeyed God because he knew God would hear his prayers. I can learn from Elijah that **God Hears When I Pray**.

K & 1
GRADE2 & 3
GRADE

Today your student learned about how Daniel stood firm in his faith when faced with the problem of idolatry. He or she learned that anything that comes before God is an idol, and only God is worthy of being first in our lives. He or she learned to focus on putting God first in his or her life.

4 & 5
GRADEYOUNG
TEENHIGH
SCHOOL

Teens were reminded that God has given us many good things to enjoy, but that we are to reserve our worship and absolute devotion for Him alone. Talk to your teen about what idolatry might look like today and how your family can avoid it. Ask what things our society tends to worship, and how we can show a better way by allowing God alone to sit on the throne of our hearts.

YOUNG
ADULT

Group members discussed the forms of idolatry that exist in culture today and were challenged to examine their priorities to make sure they are worshiping the one true God above everything else.



ADULT

Adult groups discussed how idolatry may often look different today than it did in Bible times, but it is just as real. Adults also examined how to avoid getting caught up in idolatry and to worship God exclusively.