

**The Terror of Sinking**

**Who to Pray To**

Useless idols

Exodus 20:4 “You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

Isaiah 46:6-7 “Those who lavish gold from the purse, and weigh out silver in the scales, hire a goldsmith, and he makes it into a god; then they fall down and worship! They lift it to their shoulders, they carry it, they set it in its place, and it stands there; it cannot move from its place. If one cries to it, it does not answer or save him from his trouble.

Idols require upkeep

*Your idol doesn’t carry you, you carry your idol*

What idols do you worship?

*If I didn’t have \_\_\_\_\_, then I would be hopeless. I need \_\_\_\_\_ to go on or feel good about myself.*

**What a Real Prayer Looks Like**

The prayer of desperation

*The prayer of desperation is not a sign of faith or knowing God*

*The story of ten lepers in Luke 17:11-19*

A personal relationship with God

*God as friend*

Ex. 33:11 Thus the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.

*God as father*

Mark 14:36 Abba, father, all things are possible for you.

Romans 8:15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”

**How the World Can Know How to Pray**

The Captain’s rebuke

*Put another way: “We all know there is a God out there, and our attempts at reaching him have failed because we don’t know who he is. But maybe you have a God that is real, Jonah. Stop sleeping and call out to him!”*

Not a private faith

**Questions for Study and Reflection**

1. Tell the story of the spiritual journey of the sailors in your own words.
2. Do you have idols you are carrying around? What are they promising you? Are they worth it?
3. Why is a desperate prayer not a sign of truly having a relationship with God?
4. Why does the world need Christians to not sleep on their faith but live it publicly?