

Our **Virtual**

# PowerGroup

**24/7 LIVING IN AWE OF GOD!**  
Week 1 Study

## Icebreaker

What does the word "worship" mean to you?

## Passage 1 Exodus 32:1-6

Exodus 32 tells the story of the Israelites making a golden calf while Moses was on the mountain receiving the Ten Commandments. In verses 1-6 we see the people make two substitutions. The first substitution is the people replace Moses with Aaron. Then second substitution is the people replace the mysterious and invisible God with a golden calf.

## Reflection What is an Idol?

What was the situation which gave rise to the people making the golden calf?

How would you rate the loyalty of the Israelites to God?

What are some of the "idols" that we may put in the place of God?

## Passage 2 Exodus 32:7-10

God tells Moses what the Israelites are doing with a statement that seems to be sarcastic. He identifies the Israelites as "your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt" (32:7). Because of their refusal to acknowledge God as their savior God calls them "stiff-necked" (32:9). They are like draft animals that refuse to be led by the farmer. Therefore, God is prepared to destroy them all and start over with Moses (32:10).

## Reflection Why do you think God calls them "your people"?

Read Numbers 25:3-5. Why does God take Idol worship so seriously?

Read Deuteronomy 7:3-5 How does this relate to today?

What, if anything, surprises you about God's response to the golden calf?

### Passage 3 Exodus 32:11-14

Moses then intercedes for the Israelites and attempts to avert God's anger. He makes the request based on two arguments as to why God should not destroy the Israelites. In verse 12 Moses essentially asks God, "What will the neighbors think?" Will the Egyptians not say that God took the Israelites out of bondage just to kill them? Then in verse 13 Moses asks, "What about your promises?" Will God be faithful to promises made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? Verse 14 seems to say that Moses' arguments worked. God indeed changed course and did not destroy the Israelites.

**Reflection** What pronoun does Moses use in front of "people?" Why?

Why do you think he felt freedom to speak so boldly to God?

Read 1 Timothy 2:5-6. In what way is Moises like Jesus when he intercedes for the people?

How does God show grace to the people when they rebel?

### Application

When we worship anything outside of God by putting other things first in our lives, then we begin engage in idol worship. Take the time to pray what you need to give up in your life to put God first again.

**Pray for one another that will set aside any idols in their lives and affirm their loyalty to God.**