



Faith Community Church
Turn
(Standing firm, Part 3)
Faith Group Questions
& Discussion Guide



🙏 **Opening Prayer:** Father, help us to be bold and hopeful in assessing where our trust lies outside of You. Give us courage to turn from those idols to serve You.

💡 **Icebreaker:** Share one thing that easily captures your attention or energy during a normal week. No deep analysis needed.

🔑 **Key Points**

1. **Idols.** An idol is anything we look to, love, trust, or build our identity around. They may be *good* things that we have simply made *ultimate* things.
2. **Turning.** The Thessalonians didn't merely add Jesus to their lives—they decisively turned from idols to serve the living God and wait for His Son.
3. **Discovering idols.** We can discover idols by noticing what captures our imagination, where our money flows most easily, and what triggers our strongest emotions.
4. **Dethroning idols.** We don't defeat idols by trying harder to love them less; we replace them by beholding a greater love—Jesus Himself.

💬 **Discussion Questions**

1. Did you focus on being chosen, share and watch God work, or receive Christ again over the last week? Tell us about it!
2. Paul celebrated that the Thessalonians' faith was "trending" because of their clear turn from idols. What does a genuine "turn" from something look like in everyday life today? (Ephesians 4:17-32)
3. Looking at the three diagnostic tools (imagination, money/treasure, and uncontrollable emotions), which one most readily reveals potential idols in your own heart? How or why? (Philippians 4:6, Matthew 6:25, James 1:19-20)

4. Why do you think it is so easy for good gifts (relationships, success, comfort, approval, security) to become ultimate things that we serve and wait on? (Proverbs 17:8, 2 Corinthians 4:16-18)
5. In what ways can our emotional reactions (anger, anxiety, jealousy, disappointment) become helpful windows into what we are truly worshiping? (Proverbs 3:5-7)
6. What difference does it make to know that idols can never ultimately satisfy the human heart, even when they temporarily feel promising? (Psalm 81:8-16)
7. The Thessalonians both **served** the living God and **waited** for His Son. How do those two postures work together in a healthy Christian life? (Romans 2:6-10)
8. How does seeing Jesus as the “greater love” (like Romeo meeting Juliet) change the way we approach letting go of lesser loves? (Psalm 73:3, 16-17, 23-26)



Practical Applications

1. **Minding Your Mind.** This week, set aside 10–15 quiet minutes one day to notice where your mind drifts when nothing is demanding your attention, then bring whatever surfaces to God in honest prayer.
2. **Resource Review.** Investigate one recent area of spending money or time and ask, “Is this serving God, or is it serving something I’m looking to for security, identity, or fulfillment?” Make adjustments if needed.
3. **Emotion Evaluation.** When a strong negative emotion arises (anger, anxiety, frustration), pause and ask, “What did I feel I had to have or was afraid of losing?” Then turn that desire or fear over to Jesus and spend time thanking Him for His fulfillment of that desire.
4. **Better Beauty.** FOR EVERYONE: Make a list of the things you love about Jesus. Add at least one item everyday, and ask God to help you fall more in love with Christ.



Closing Prayer: Lord Jesus, we praise You for being greater and better than anything our hearts focus on here in this temporary world. Help us to see You for who You truly are, and to lay down our devotion to things of this life. Amen.