

TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: Top 10
Message: Don't Make Idols
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: April 23, 2023

In Ephesians 5 we read...

⁵ You can be sure that no immoral, impure, or greedy person will inherit the Kingdom of Christ and of God. For a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. ⁶ Don't be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins...
Ephesians 5:5-6 (NLT)

It is easy to think that idol worship is something from the ancient past or less modern societies, but according to God's word anything that takes the place God should have in my life is an idol. Whatever it is that gets my primary affection is an idol in my life.

Read Mark 10:17-31 and then list some modern-day idols that we are surrounded by. (Think about the things that are presented as guarantees of success, happiness, and peace.)

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Ask God to show you which of these tempt you.

If we are willing to admit (confess) our struggle and ask for His help we can find forgiveness and freedom.

⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and there is no truth in us. ⁹ But if we confess our sins to God, he will keep his promise and do what is right: he will forgive us our sins and purify us from all our wrongdoing.
1 John 1:8-9 (GNB)

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

GNB – Good News Bible
NLT – New Living Translation

MESSAGE NOTES



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The 10 commandments were given so we can...

...know what God is like.

...know how to relate to Him and others.

...know why we need a savior.

Command #2:

⁸ You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind, or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. ⁹ You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods.

Deuteronomy 5:8-9a (NLT)

Idol worship is not merely something from the ancient past.

An idol is anything that takes the rightful place of God in my life. (See Mark 10:17-31)

Whatever has my primary attention is my God.

⁵ You can be sure that no immoral, impure, or greedy person will inherit the Kingdom of Christ and of God. For a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. ⁶ Don't be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins...
Ephesians 5:5-6 (NLT)

So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don't be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world.
Colossians 3:5 (NLT)

greed (pleonexia): to have + more

God is not willing to share our affection. His jealousy is a result of His love for us.

⁸ And now the word of the Lord is ringing out from you to people everywhere, even beyond Macedonia and Achaia, for wherever we go we find people telling us about your faith in God. We don't need to tell them about it, ⁹ for they keep talking about the wonderful welcome you gave us and how you turned away from idols to serve the living and true God.

1 Thessalonians 1:8-9 (NLT)