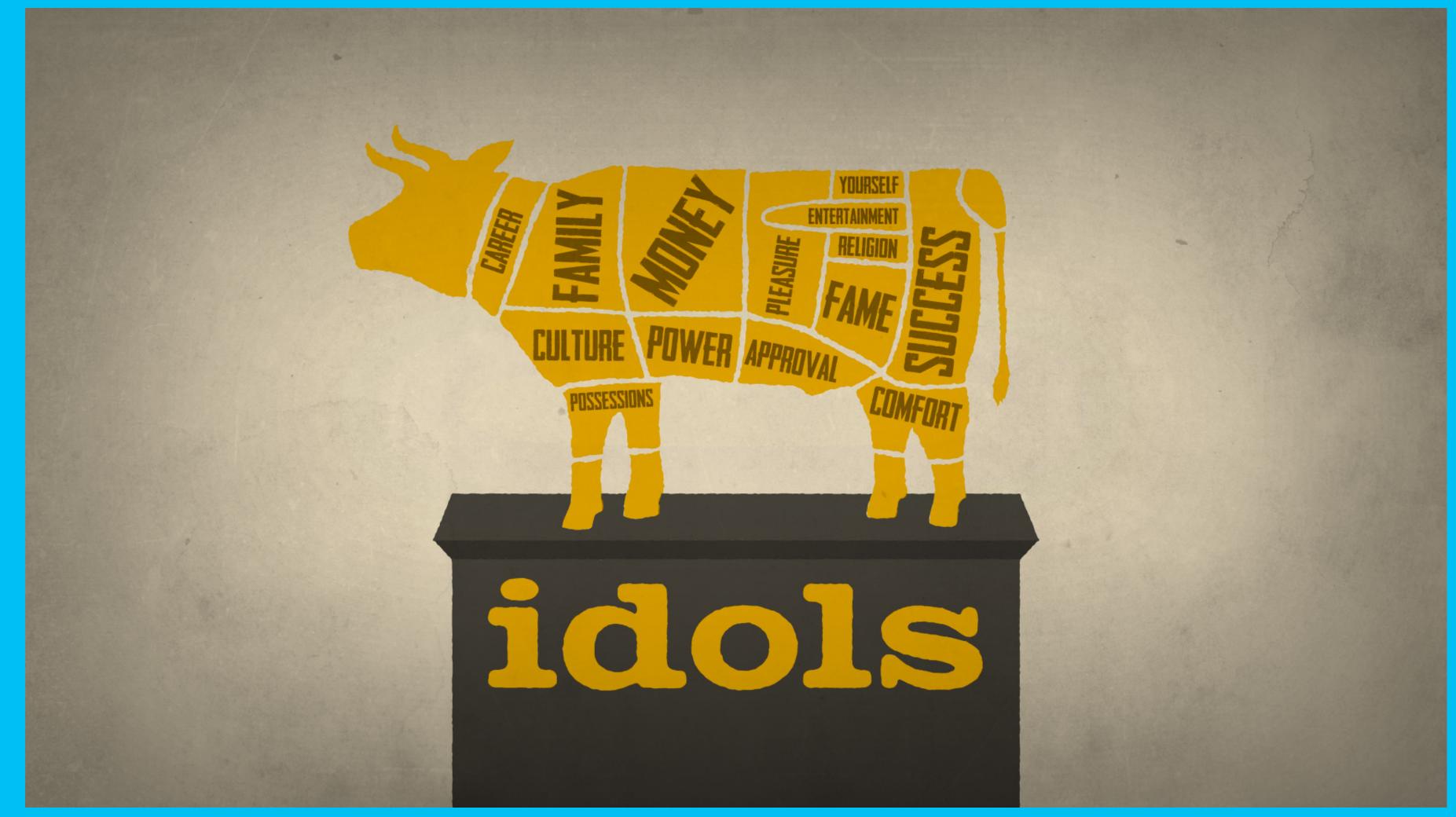
WEEK 5



The Sanctuary Fellowship Spring 2023

### THE POWER AND THE GLORY











"...envy really does exist and work its destruction, all the more successfully because we refuse to face it. In essence, envy is an attack on being the being of the envied and of the envier, too and an attack on the good quality or stuff that is envied. Unimpeded, envy would eviscerate everyone and everything, leaving nothing but shells. Then, perhaps, its own envious clamoring could rest, but only as long as nothing appeared to activate its venom anew.

...When Cinderella's sisters envy her, they get off the hook of their struggle with themselves and their relation to the good. They dodge trying to relate to their own selves by means of noisy accusations directed against Cinderella. They avoid figuring out their relation to their mother, to the prince, or to what they see as the good life. Instead of inspecting and muddling along in these real relationships, they mount vociferous attacks on Cinderella. All the sisters' energies go into trying to destroy Cinderella's being instead of trying to take hold of their own...(comprehensive well-being)." -Ann and Barry Ulanov; Cinderella and Her Sisters (1983)







# **Small Group Discussion:** What are God's top 5 characteristics? **Exodus 34:14** Do not worship any other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.

## Exodus 20:5

You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me,

What does it mean that God is jealous? -he is zealously protecting his love relationship with you -he will avenge the loss of that relationship

"God's jealousy over his people ... presupposes his covenantal love; and this love is no transitory affection, accidental and aimless, but is the expression of a sovereign purpose. The goal of the covenant love of God is that he should have a people on earth as long as history lasts, and after that should have all his faithful ones of every age with him in glory. Covenant love is the heart of God's plan for his world." -JI Packer, Knowing God



What does it mean that God is jealous? -God is not insecure, anxious, bitter or fearful

(Sam Storms) How much does God love you? know the fullness of life in Him?

- -God's jealousy is his righteous, loving anger against anything that would keep his people from enjoying him
- -God's jealousy is directly proportionate to his love!!
  - How much does God want you to be free and to

## **Small Group Discussion:**

## 1- Define success.

2- How might the idol of success threaten our relationship with God?

3- What might God do to jealously protect your love from being given to the idol of success?

4- How can you cultivate a jealousy for God in your own heart?

# SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION:

# Discuss the following questions from the study guide together:

#s 2, 6, 7, 8

Father, let the Holy Spirit help me to remember what I've learned about idols so I don't have to go back and re-learn the same lessons. Let me learn and know wonderful things from your Law. Let me be truly heart-satisfied in Jesus. Don't allow my wandering heart to fall into the lap of lies from success or to be devoured by the cousin of success: jealousy. Make me as jealous for you and your love as you are for me. You deserve all of me. In the name of Jesus-Amen.



