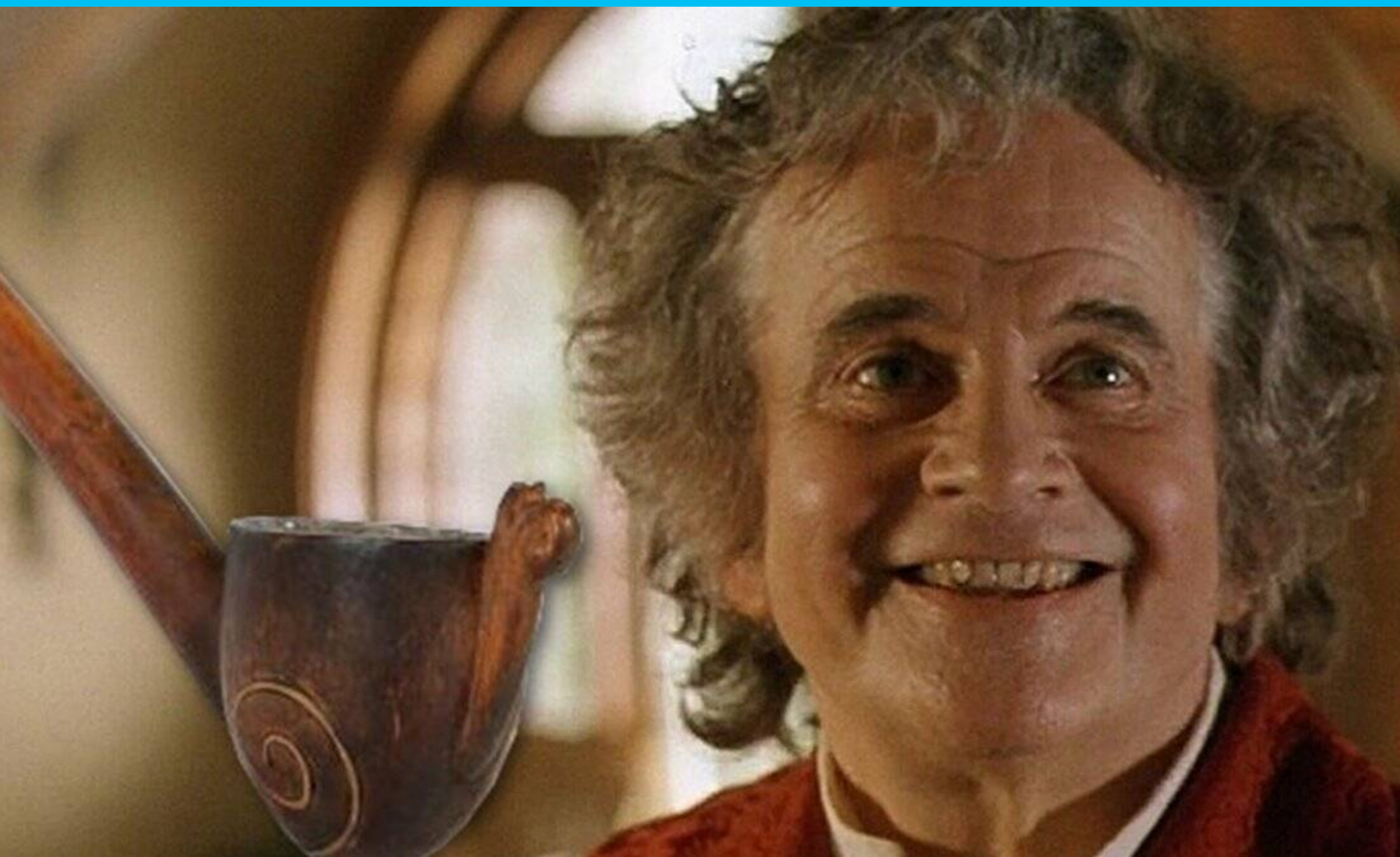


**The Sanctuary Fellowship
Spring 2023**



February 4, 1789

April 14, 1789













**One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them,
One Ring to bring them all and in the darkness bind them.**

Small Group Discussion:

1- If you had to define the idol of power, how would you?

2- Why are we attracted to the idol of power?

3- What does the Bible teach us about power?

COUNTERFEIT GODS

Psalm 115:4-7

Their idols are silver and gold, The work of man's hands.

They have mouths, but they cannot speak;

They have eyes, but they cannot see;

They have ears, but they cannot hear;

They have noses, but they cannot smell;

They have hands, but they cannot feel;

They have feet, but they cannot walk;

They cannot make a sound with their throat...

v. 8:

Those who make them will become like them, Everyone who trusts in them.

COUNTERFEIT GODS

- You are intimidated by people who aren't like you (1:9-10) and you compensate by mistreating (1:11-14) or sidelining (1:15-22) them.
- You punish unwanted expression through brute force and unreasonable expectations (5:10-14)
- You cannot allow for freedom of expression that you're not in the middle of or creativity that you didn't invent yourself (8:25, 28).
- You are willing to lose everything else except power (10:7) using people only for what they can do for you (14:5).

COUNTERFEIT GODS

- You assume evil intentions on the part of those whose plans differ from yours (10:10).
- You move to manipulate people using their families (10:11) and possessions (10:24) when they don't fall in line.
- You view people only as means to an end and value.

Delivered from Darkness; “The Idol of Power”

COUNTERFEIT GODS

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?

What is the answer to the idol of power?

Exchange of worship

Reorient/redefine power

Redeem power

COUNTERFEIT GODS



Henry Ossawa Tanner (1859-1937)

COUNTERFEIT GODS

The Banjo Lesson (1893)



How to redeem power

1- Share it (Luke 10:19; James 2:1-9)

2- Seek relationships (Romans 12:10)

3- Restore the broken (James 5:19-20)

4- Use power with others who also have power for good (1 Peter 4:10-11; Luke 10)

Small Group Discussion:

From the study guide, discuss questions:

2 3 5 7

COUNTERFEIT GODS

Master Jesus-

You are the one and only good God. Be master of my heart. I want to be fully submitted to your rule and lordship in my life. In the power of the Holy Spirit, I will not be bullied by any other masters and I will not bully others. I will use any power or influence to improve others and encourage their influence. I lay down my need for control.

You are the only good master who loves me- thank you Jesus! Amen. *(adapted from 40 Day Sugar Fast)*