



**The Sanctuary Fellowship
Spring 2023**

COUNTERFEIT GODS

“We don’t break any other of the 10 Commandments without breaking the first one”-
agree or disagree?

Is idolatry limited to the OT?

Luke 16:13-15

Matthew 6:21

1 John 5:21

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Romans 1:18-23

What are the three exchanges?

1- the glory of God for the glory of the created thing

2- the truth of God for a lie

3- the natural for the unnatural

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**“What a man loves that is his god.
For he carries it in his heart, he goes
about with it night and day, he
sleeps and wakes with it.”**

-Martin Luther

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Idolatry suppresses the truth about self, others, God- how?

“What do we make of the glory of God? Do we magnify it by treasuring it above all things? Do we belittle it by preferring other things and exchanging it for created things?” John Piper

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION:

Define idolatry

“Idolatry is when you become the source of your own joy.” -Paul Washer

“It starts in the heart: craving, wanting, enjoying, being satisfied by anything that you treasure more than God. That is an idol. Paul calls this covetousness — a disordered love or desire, loving more than God what ought to be loved less than God.” -John Piper

**"Idolatry is having or inventing something in which one trusts in place of or alongside of the only true God, who has revealed himself in the Word."
-Heidelberg Catechism, Q95**

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What did de Tocqueville say about America on p. xiii? What does this have to do with idolatry?

On p. xv, Keller says that many people get involved in power and achievement to “medicate the inner emptiness.” What does this have to do with idolatry?

What did Tolkien’s Ring of Power have to do with idolatry? (p. xvii)

How does the idea of “spiritual addictions” help you better understand what idolatry is?

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What is Keller's core definition of idolatry?

What are the four categories of Idols as outlined by Keller?

How does the Bible describe the three ways that people relate to idols?

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION:

Intro:

#s 1, 4, 5, 6

Chapter 1:

#s 2, 3, 5, 6, 8

BONUS IDOLATRY ?S

- *Do I love or treasure anything or anyone more than God?*
- *Do I prioritize anything or anyone before God?*
- *Does anything bring me more pleasure than the things of God?*
- *Do I place my identity in anything over my status as a child of God?*
- *Do I look to anything or anyone to meet my needs instead of God?*
- *Do I seek fulfillment or satisfaction from anything outside of God?*
- *Do I seek comfort outside of God?*

-Deb Preston

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“Father, your kindness to me is beyond understanding. Teach my heart to long for you and to come to you. Train my legs to run to you! You are my promised land, my comforter, my healer and my savior! Give me courage to turn from idols and to run to you! Amen”

-adapted from The 40 Day Sugar Fast

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WEEK 2 HOMEWORK:

Read Chapter 2

Complete the Study Guide for Chapter 2