



American Idols

Definition of IDOLATRY: The worship of idols or excessive devotion to, or reverence for, some person or thing. An idol is anything that replaces the one, true God.

Exodus 20:3 (NLT) ***“You must not have any other god but me.”***

Deuteronomy 5:7 (NLT) ***“You must not have any other god but me.”***

A Great Example

Exodus 32:1-6 (NLT) ¹ *When the people saw how long it was taking Moses to come back down the mountain, they gathered around Aaron. “Come on,” they said, “make us some gods who can lead us. We don’t know what happened to this fellow Moses, who brought us here from the land of Egypt.”* ² *So Aaron said, “Take the gold rings from the ears of your wives and sons and daughters, and bring them to me.”* ³ *All the people took the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron.* ⁴ *Then Aaron took the gold, melted it down, and molded it into the shape of a calf. When the people saw it, they exclaimed, “O Israel, these are the gods who brought you out of the land of Egypt!”* ⁵ *Aaron saw how excited the people were, so he built an altar in front of the calf. Then he announced, “Tomorrow will be a festival to the Lord!”* ⁶ *The people got up early the next morning to sacrifice burnt offerings and peace offerings. After this, they celebrated with feasting and drinking, and they indulged in pagan revelry.*

Exodus 32:19-24 (NLT) ¹⁹ *When they came near the camp, Moses saw the calf and the dancing, and he burned with anger. He threw the stone tablets to the ground, smashing them at the foot of the mountain.* ²⁰ *He took the calf they had made and burned it. Then he ground it into powder, threw it into the water, and forced the people to drink it.* ²¹ *Finally, he turned to Aaron and demanded,*

“What did these people do to you to make you bring such terrible sin upon them?” ²² *“Don’t get so upset, my lord,” Aaron replied. “You yourself know how evil these people are.”* ²³ *They said to me, ‘Make us gods who will lead us. We don’t know what happened to this fellow Moses, who brought us here from the land of Egypt.’* ²⁴ *So I told them, ‘Whoever has gold jewelry, take it off.’ When they brought it to me, I simply threw it into the fire—and out came this calf!”*

Idols that Can Crowd God Out

- MONEY and materialism — The need for more stuff!
- Our own PRIDE and ego-manifests — Work-a-holic, obsession with our appearance and battling insecurities.
- Other people
- Sports
- Our appetites — ADDICTION to alcohol, drugs, porn, TV, social media, etc.
- Our kids

The Best Antidote for Idolatry

A passionate, committed and close relationship with Jesus.

Paul said in Philippians 1:21, ***“For to me, to live is Christ...”***

Life Groups

Scriptures that Relate:

Monday: Deuteronomy 3

Wednesday: Deuteronomy 5

Friday: Exodus 32

Tuesday: Deuteronomy 4

Thursday: Matthew 22

Saturday: 1 Corinthians 10

Talk it Over:

1. **When you hear “idol” what comes to mind?**
2. How does the golden calf story speak to you?
3. What American idols do you battle the most?
4. How do we successfully keep God as the top priority of our lives?
5. Pray for one another to seek the glory of God in all facet of our lives.