
IDOLATRY:

GIVING OUR ALLEGIANCE TO FALSE GODS

We were made to worship the one true and living God, who seeks those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth (Jn. 4:23). God tells us to have no other gods before Him (Ex. 20:1-6). That includes statues and other idols made with human hands, of course, but anything which rivals Him for first place in our lives is in idol as well.

God commands us to seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and He will provide everything we truly need (Matt. 6:31-34). He wants our lives to be devoted to Him in our work and play (I Cor. 10:31) and that is what we are made for.

The primary things we think about, expend energy on, devote attention to, seek for satisfaction and comfort, hope in, and rely on for strength indicate what is most important to us. Who or what is most important to us becomes the object of our worship, our god. It may not be evil in and of itself, but if it competes with God for first place in our lives, it is idolatry, and terribly wrong. In addition, seeking anything other than God can never truly satisfy or fulfill us (Jer. 2:13).

Jesus told us, “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money,” (Matt. 6:24). Serving anything or anyone more than God results in our being controlled by that thing or person. It becomes our master; we become its slave. The only Master worth serving is God (I Cor. 7:22-23), and He alone has the capability to give us a full and meaningful life (John 10:10).

In order to flee from false gods and guard ourselves from idols (I Cor. 10:14; 21–24; 1 John 5:21) ask God to reveal any idols in your life:

Dear God, You are the Creator of all and Lord of the universe, and You have commanded me to “have no other gods before You.” I admit that it is easy to let things and other people take first place in my life (Ex. 20:3). I confess that I have not loved You with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength as You instructed in the greatest commandment (Matt. 22:37). Please reveal to my mind now any past or present idol in my life, so I can reject any ground Satan may have gained in my life through it and offer YOU my first love once again (Rev. 2:4-5). In the name of Jesus, the One True God, Amen.

Prayerfully consider the items below, asking the Lord if any have competed with Him for first place in your life. Add any other things or people (not on the list) which have become more important to you than God. Then use the prayer after the list to confess and renounce them as idols.

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| <input type="radio"/> Ambition / Career | <input type="radio"/> Status: Followers / Views / "Likes" |
| <input type="radio"/> Financial Security | <input type="radio"/> Sports / Fitness |
| <input type="radio"/> Popularity / Approval | <input type="radio"/> Ministry |
| <input type="radio"/> Appearance / Image / Physique | <input type="radio"/> Friends |
| <input type="radio"/> Work | <input type="radio"/> Spouse |
| <input type="radio"/> Busyness / Activity | <input type="radio"/> Children |
| <input type="radio"/> Boyfriend / Girlfriend | <input type="radio"/> Food or any Substance |
| <input type="radio"/> Parents | <input type="radio"/> Hobbies |
| <input type="radio"/> Church / Charity | <input type="radio"/> Power / Control |
| <input type="radio"/> Computer and Video Games | <input type="radio"/> Sex / Pornography |
| <input type="radio"/> Knowledge / Being Right | <input type="radio"/> Celebrities: TV Stars, Musicians, Athletes |
| <input type="radio"/> Fun / Pleasure | <input type="radio"/> Home |
| <input type="radio"/> TV / Music / Other Media | <input type="radio"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> School Grades / Awards / Other Accolades | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Fashion | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Money / Possessions | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Social Media / Technology | _____ |

In the name of the true and living God, Jesus Christ, I confess and renounce my worship of the false god of (name the idol). I choose to worship only, YOU, Lord, and ask You, Father, to enable me to keep this area of (name the idol) in its proper place in my life.