X COMMANDMENTS

NO IDOLS

GROW GUIDE

You radically love God by not making any idols!



ABOUT IDOLATRY

SIMPLE DEFINITION: Anything without God! Don't worship anything you create.

- Idolatry is a ***forbidden*** *sin.* (Exodus 20:3-4)
- The prophets ***confronted*** idolatry. (1 Kings 18:21)
- The Apostle Paul would ***not tolerate*** idolatry. (Acts 17:30)
- Jesus ***crushed*** idolatry. (Matthew 4:10)

Idolatry is both an ancient temptation & a modern sin!

MODERN DAY IDOLATRY

Outside the Church

- **Money & Materialism** - Careers, wealth, luxury, consumerism (Matthew 16:26)
- **Entertainment & Celebrities** - Worshiping athletes, influencers, Hollywood, or music idols (Philippians 3:19)
- **Self-Worship** - Obsession with self-image, personal brand & "my truth" culture.

Inside the Church

- **Celebrity Pastors** - Elevating leaders above Christ
- **Worship Experience** - Worshipping the feeling or vibe of worship, versus the One we worship
- **Prosperity without suffering** - When you want God's hand or blessing without His heart.

The greatest form of idolatry today is making for yourself your own version of Christianity!

4 Things You Need to Know About Idolatry:

1. **Idolatry damages your relationship with God.** Nothing is more dangerous than provoking the Lord; it's trading His blessing for His wrath. (1 Samuel 8:7-8, Deuteronomy 4:25-26, Romans 1:23-25)
2. **Idolatry is spiritual adultery: cheating on God.** Idolatry is the opposite of radical love - it is adulterous love. (Jeremiah 3:8-9, Hosea)
3. **Idolatry is declaring war on God.** Idolatry is an act of war against God. (Exodus 32:17-18, Colossians 3:5)
4. **Idolatry is a condition of your heart.** If there is anything you love more than God, that's an idol. (Matthew 15:8)

APPLICATION

QUESTIONS FOR YOURSELF:

- What competes for my affection, trust or my obedience more than God?
- Have I sought God for His gifts more than His presence?
- Have I been tempted to make my own version of Christianity?

QUESTIONS FOR GOD:

- What are You jealous for in my life?
- What things or ideas have a higher place in my heart than You?
- How can I grow in my radical love for You?

QUESTIONS FOR OTHERS:

- How do you know if you have idols in your life?
- Is there anything you love more than God?
- How do you practice radically loving God and others?

STEWARDING THE 2ND COMMANDMENT:

- **Ask** the Holy Spirit to convict you of any idols in your life.
- **Seek** God's presence over His gifts and blessings.
- **Walk** in radical love, both toward God and toward people.
- **Pray** the prayer of radical love everyday to guard against idolatry.

PRAYER OF RADICAL LOVE.

Father, I really do love You. I call You Holy, You call me Beloved! Thank You for loving me. Today I love on You. Would You love on me? Your love is perfect. I want to love like You! Help me love my neighbor and my enemy. Teach me how to war in love. I pray the love of God casts out all fear. Shame, go! Glory of God come fill me. Holy Spirit help me to love what You love and hate what You hate. I choose to obey You today! Lord, I love You with all of my heart, soul, mind and strength. I pray today to encounter Your radical love! Amen.