

Date:

Podcast Worksheet
Why God's Power May be Missing: Getting Rid of False Idols

Scriptural Texts:

Deuteronomy 28; 1 Samuel 2:21; Jonah 2:8; Luke 21:34; 1 Peter 2:25

Main Points:

1. The lives of people in the Old Testament mirror our lives today.
2. God wants his people to be among the culture yet remain pure in their beliefs and ways.
3. The Old Testament law can be summed up as: *"Follow God and you will be free, and life will go well. Don't follow God and you will end up in bondage; it won't go well."*
4. This is the cycle God's people repeated until he allowed them to be taken as slaves: Follow God, begin gravitating to false idols, worship false idols, get in trouble with God, repent of sin, then return to God.
5. We do the same: We leave God, go our own way down Pride Pathway, worshiping false idols until we're in bondage to our sin.
6. God always makes good on his word.
7. A false idol is: Anything we look to for power to save us, protect us, or provide for us that does not have the power to do so.
8. If anything has a higher place than God, we are living disobediently and rebelliously.
9. Our false idols generally attempt to serve one or more of the following purposes: Take away our pain, make us feel better, give us significance or security, or be our protector or provider.
10. God alone can give us significance, meet our needs, and be our true protector and provider.
11. We cheat ourselves out of God's best when we trust in false idols.
12. To get rid of false idols we need to: Go to God and confess what we've done, and then begin reading the Bible as we ask God to help us learn to choose him and his ways, not the world's.

Questions:

1. What things do you gravitate toward to take away or diminish your pain and make you feel better? (ex. Food, drugs, exercise, gambling, pornography, shopping, work, internet, sex.)

2. What do you rely on to give you significance and security? (ex. Beauty, career, work, service, education, achievements, investments, money, sports, relationships.)

3. What people have you appointed (and this may be yourself) to be your provider and protector? In what ways have you or others attempted to be your own god?

Prayer of Response:

Lord God, forgive me for all the false idols I've allowed into my life, letting them take your intended place. These are the ones I am aware of: _____. I will read your Word. Please redirect me to the truth so I can begin to trust you to be the Shepherd and Overseer of my soul. In Jesus name, amen.

Commitment: After prayerful meditation on this podcast, I am going to _____
