

SWO20 WORKSHOP: SPENCER DAVIS

SNOWBIRD WILDERNESS OUTFITTERS

IDOLATRY













EXODUS 32:1

- ▶ "When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron and said to him, 'Up, make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.'"

EXODUS 32:2-3

- ▶ "So Aaron said to them, 'Take off the rings of gold that are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.' So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron."

EXODUS 32:4

- ▶ “And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. And they said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’”

EXODUS 32:5

- ▶ “When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, ‘Tomorrow shall be a feast to the LORD.’”





**“IDOLATRY IS A SERIOUS
PROBLEM IN THE SCRIPTURE...
AND A SERIOUSLY OVERLOOKED
ONE IN OUR CULTURE.”**

WHAT IS AN IDOL?

- ▶ 1. A man bowing down to a statue.
- ▶ 2. Worshiping a person / idea (Elvis, Mother Earth)
- ▶ **WEIRD!**
- ▶ 76% of people believe they are innocent of breaking the 1st commandment: "no other gods before me"

COLOSSIANS 3:5

- ▶ “Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and **covetousness, which is idolatry.**”

COVETOUSNESS

- ▶ Disordered desire or misplaced want that wants:
 - ▶ Something more than we want God (disordered-out of order).
 - ▶ Something to give us what only God can (misplaced - can't provide).

WHAT IS AN IDOL?

- ▶ 3. Something that we love or serve in place of God (disordered want/love).

**“THE EVIL IN OUR DESIRE
TYPICALLY DOES NOT LIE IN
WHAT WE WANT, BUT THAT WE
WANT IT TOO MUCH.”**

John Calvin

WHAT IS AN IDOL?

- ▶ 4. Something that we look to—to give us what only God can provide (misplaced want/love).

IDOLS DON'T WORK!

- ▶ What happens when we **DON'T** get that thing?
 - ▶ *Devastated. Identity crisis. Who am I?*

- ▶ What happens when we **DO**?
 - ▶ *Depressed. Just as empty.*

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IDOLATRY?

- ▶ Information alone holds no changing power.
- ▶ ...neither does commitment.
- ▶ ...neither does fear, unless it's constant.



HOW DO WE GET RID OF IDOLS?

COLOSSIANS 3:5

- ▶ **“Put to death** therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and **covetousness, which is idolatry.”**

HOW DO WE GET RID OF IDOLS?

- ▶ Search out - What disordered want or love is at the root of this?
- ▶ At the root of idolatry is a **DESIRE** problem.

**“WE ARE TRYING TO QUENCH
SPIRITUAL THIRST WITH
PHYSICAL WATER.”**

Bob Kelleman

EXERCISE

- ▶ What is an idol for you (or potential idol)?
- ▶ What disordered/misplaced desire/love is at the root?
- ▶ How can Christ fulfill this deep desire?

EXERCISE

▶ Example:

▶ Why do I care so much about _____?

▶ What I really want deep down is _____.

▶ Here is how Christ can provide:
