

SMALL GROUP/PERSONAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1 REVIEW THE SERMON

Read Ezekiel 14:1-11 and write this Sunday's Big Idea here: _____

Why are idols of the heart a problem? Look at verse 5. _____

2 ASSESS YOUR LIFE

According to Brad Bigney, "An idol is anything or anyone that captures our hearts, minds, and affections more than God." What idols are set before your face and become a stumbling block leading to sin? _____

Dig deeper with this heart question: What are you desiring that caused you to sin this way?

3 APPLY THE TRUTH

After identifying idols in your heart, repent and then return all of your devotion back to the Lord. Take time to come before the Lord in prayer, rededicating everything to Him. Share these things and this process with your small group.

4 COMMIT THIS WEEK

What specific step can you take this week to keep your devotion on the Lord? Read Matthew 22:37. How can your small group come alongside you? _____

DAVID POWILSON: "X-RAY QUESTIONS"

The following questions aid in discerning the patterns of a person's motivation. The questions aim to help people identify and unveil the ungodly masters that occupy positions of authority in their hearts.

What do you worry about the most?

What do you worry about all the time?

What's your greatest nightmare?

What, if you failed or lost it, would cause you to feel that you did not even want to live?

What thing, what relationship, that if you lost it, would lead you to seriously question whether or not you should go on living?

That's a really helpful and exposing question. What do you use to comfort yourself when things go bad or get difficult?

Who or what do you look to for comfort when it's a bad day?

What do you do to cope?

What are your release valves?

What do you do to make yourself feel better?

What preoccupies you?

Someone once said, "Your religion is what you do with your solitude." In other words, when you're alone and you have the time, where does your heart tend to wander?

What makes you feel the most self-worth?

Of what are you the proudest?

For what do you want to be known?

What do you want people to know about you?

What is the thing you want to be known for, identified by and labeled with?

What prayer unanswered would seriously make you think about turning away from God?

TIMOTHY KELLER: 20 KINDS OF IDOLATRY

"Life only has meaning/I only have worth if..."

1. I have power and influence over others." (Power Idolatry)
2. I am loved and respected by _____. (Approval Idolatry)
3. I have this kind of pleasure experience, a particular quality of life." (Comfort idolatry)
4. I am able to get mastery over my life in the area of _____. (Control idolatry)
5. people are dependent on me and need me." (Helping Idolatry)
6. someone is there to protect me and keep me safe." (Dependence idolatry)
7. I am completely free from obligations or responsibilities to take care of someone." (Independence idolatry)
8. I am highly productive and getting a lot done." (Work idolatry)
9. I am being recognized for my accomplishments, and I am excelling in my work." (Achievement idolatry)
10. I have a certain level of wealth, financial freedom, and very nice possessions." (Materialism idolatry)
11. I am adhering to my religion's moral codes and accomplished in its activities." (Religion idolatry)
12. This one person is in my life and happy to be there, and/or happy with me." (Individual person idolatry)
13. I feel I am totally independent of organized religion and am living by a self-made morality." (Irreligion idolatry)
14. My race and culture is ascendant and recognized as superior." (Racial/cultural idolatry)
15. A particular social grouping or professional grouping or other group lets me in." (Inner ring idolatry)
16. My children and/or my parents are happy and happy with me." (Family idolatry)
17. Mr. or Ms. "Right" is in love with me." (Relationship Idolatry)
18. I am hurting, in a problem; only then do I feel worthy of love or able to deal with guilt." (Suffering idolatry)
19. my political or social cause is making progress and ascending in influence or power." (Ideology idolatry)
20. I have a particular kind of look or body image." (Image idolatry)