

LEADERS

Please make sure to fill out the “summer plans” form on the SG Newsletter sent Friday the 22nd. Knowing your June-July intentions will help us add new folks appropriately to groups.

LEARN

Read 1 Corinthians 10:14-22 together. What stands out from the text or Sunday's sermon that was especially helpful, encouraging, or challenging?

What is the nature and spiritual reality of idolatry?

(Anything that captures our hearts/minds/affections more than God. It takes place in our hearts and expresses itself in day to day life. Consider turning to Romans 1 and Ezekiel 14:1-5)

Why does Paul connect idolatry to communion?

(Participating in a symbolic act such as communion is true participation with God and his people in his celebrating his saving work. Likewise, false religious festivals is participating with demonic worship.)

How does verse 20 inform us of the way God views false religion and false worship?

(False worship is not “fake” as if there is no spiritual reality or power to it. It is false in that it's against God and demons gladly receive worship and lead people away from the living and true God.)

PRACTICE

In idolatry, your identity becomes wrapped up in something that was never meant to satisfy or sustain you. What are examples of how you've seen this in your life?

(Ideas: Performance, good health, money, success, fairness, pain-free living, ideals we create and pursue, relationships including friends, family, dating, sexual expression.)

What are you doing spiritually when you participate in the act of communion, and how should this affect the way you participate in it with other believers in the future?

(Recognize all believers are joined with Christ in his life and death, we are one body. Our identity, security, forgiveness, assurance of eternal life all flow from Christ's work for us.)

CHANGE

Consider the most consistent temptation toward idolatry in your life... for example, it could be through relationships, or material possessions, or seeking acclaim/approval. How can you actively resist this temptation and worship God instead?

(Recognize it for what it is with the help of the Holy Spirit. Confess and repent of what draws you toward placing undue weight, recognition, or importance in a relationship, goal, or material thing. Ask God to work in and change your heart to see him as all-satisfying and not the idol.)