

A World of Idols

Paul saw that the city
was full of idols.

Acts 17.16

S T A G E S

Curious

Hungry
for Jesus

Believer*

Being
Fed

Disciple

Feeding
Themselves

Disciple
Maker

Feeding
Others

STAGES



STUCK

S T A G E S

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IDOLS



Little children,
guard yourself from idols.

1 John 5.21

We know that God's children do not make a practice of sinning, for God's Son holds them securely, and the evil one cannot touch them.

1 John 5.18

We know that we are children of
God and that the world around us is
under the control of the evil one.

1 John 5.19

And we know that the Son of God
has come, and he has given us
understanding so that we can know
the true God.

1 John 5.20a

And now we live in fellowship with
the true God because we live in
fellowship with his Son, Jesus
Christ. He is the only true God, and
he is eternal life.

1 John 5.20b

Little children,
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1 John 5.21

WHY?

...break any promise, rationalize any
indiscretion, or betray any other
allegiance, ...violate all good and
proper boundaries.

To practice idolatry is to be a slave. Tim
Keller

This warning was given because this is
our root problem
on any given day.

Joe Thorn

IDOLS

...anything more important to you than
God, anything that absorbs your heart
and imagination more than God,
anything you seek to give you what only
God can give.

Timothy Keller

Our hearts are
an idol factory.

John Calvin

TYPES of IDOLS

good things becoming ultimate things

Personal

Family

Cultural

Religious/Ideological

TYPES of IDOLS

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RECOGNIZE IDOLS

[Idolatry] means turning a good thing
into an ultimate thing.

Tim Keller

RECOGNIZE IDOLS

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into an ultimate thing.

Tim Keller

RECOGNIZE IDOLS

What occupies my mind when I'm relaxed?

RECOGNIZE IDOLS

What are my dreams?

RECOGNIZE IDOLS

What do I really live for?

RECOGNIZE IDOLS

What triggers my uncontrollable emotions?

(anger, fear, despair, shame, guilt, cowardice)

RECOGNIZE IDOLS

How do I spend my money?

RENOUNCE IDOLS

Resolution One: I will live for God.

Resolution Two: If no one else does, I
still will.

Jonathan Edwards

...they keep talking about the wonderful welcome you gave us and how you turned away from idols to serve the living and true God.

1 Thessalonians 1.9

REPLACE IDOLS

Whom have I in heaven but you?
I desire you more than anything on
earth.

Psalm 73.23

For me to live is Christ
and to die is gain.

Philippians 1.21

Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage...

Philippians 3.8

My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2.20

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1 John 5.21