

❖ FOLLOWING JESUS – LEARNING FROM JACOB

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ your idols
  - What do you overvalue?
  
  - What spiritual issues did your parents or grandparents struggle with?
  
  - Modern day idols- circle the idols you struggle with
    - Power- time, money, possessions, career, education
    - Pleasure- entertainment, hobbies, sports, sex, addictions, beauty
    - Relationships- family, people’s opinion, appearance, love, co-dependency, enabling
2. B \_\_\_\_\_ your idols – have a ceremony- reaffirm God’s love, power & control
  - Abraham took Isaac to the altar, Jacob buried them, Moses ground the calf...
3. WORSHIP the Lord & OBEY Him
  - ✓ Obey God in the very areas you’ve given your idols control
    - Time & Pleasure- devotions, Sabbath, serve- 1 hour a week
    - Money- tithe, give, share, set a maximum –give the rest
    - People’s opinion- speak the truth in love, witness, be silent about your deeds
4. WATCH Him protect you
  - ✓ Hear God’s voice- What’s God saying to you?
  
  - ✓ Obey- Write or say it back in a prayer & obey-
  
  - ✓ Share- Who do you need to share with, train, or serve?

NO IDOLS – Ex 20:4-6, 4/18/21

- ❖ GETTING OUR FEET WET- idol making in real life
  
- ❖ DIVING INTO SCRIPTURE
  - Ex 12<sup>12</sup> “On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD.”
  - Ex 19<sup>4</sup> ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup> Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup> you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”
  - Ex 19<sup>18</sup> Mount Sinai was covered with smoke, because the LORD descended on it in fire. The smoke billowed up from it like smoke from a furnace, and the whole mountain trembled violently. <sup>19</sup> As the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and the voice of God answered him.
  - Ex 20<sup>1</sup> And God spoke all these words, saying: <sup>2</sup> “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. <sup>3</sup> “You shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup> “You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. <sup>5</sup> You shall not bow down to them or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup> but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.
  - I Sam 15<sup>22</sup> But Samuel replied: “Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. <sup>23</sup> For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has rejected you as king.”
  - Ezk 14<sup>3</sup> “Son of man, these men have set up idols in their hearts and put wicked stumbling blocks before their faces. Should I let them inquire of me at all?
  - Col 3<sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.
  - I Jn 5<sup>21</sup> Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.

➤ WHAT'S AN IDOL?

- ✓ Literally- an image r\_\_\_\_\_ a deity
- ✓ Bible's 17 words for idol
- ✓ Spiritually- an idol is something or someone we...
  - O\_\_\_\_\_
  - A\_\_\_\_\_ God-like qualities
- ✓ Motive- idolatry is about c\_\_\_\_\_ - to protect, guide, fulfill... (love, security, significance)
- ✓ Therefore, IDOLATRY is
  - The over valuing of something or someone
  - The worship of the wrong gods
  - OR the worship of the right God w\_\_\_\_\_ (Saul- I Sam 15, Ezk 14, Mt 15:8, 20:20, Jas 4)

➤ 3 COMMANDMENTS IN 1- You shall NOT...

- ✓ Make
- ✓ Bow down
- ✓ S\_\_\_\_\_ (worship- Ex 1:13-14, 3:12, 20:2)

➤ 1 MOTIVE- for y\_\_\_\_\_

➤ MADE FROM 3 SPHERES

- ✓ Heaven above
- ✓ Earth beneath
- ✓ Waters below

➤ 2 REASONS TO OBEY

- ✓ WHO God is
  - For I the LORD
  - Your God
  - Am a j\_\_\_\_\_ (zealous) God (6x- only of God- Dt 4:24- exclusive devotion, bright red, guards his people, punishes spiritual adultery)
- ✓ WHAT God does
  - Visiting (punishing?) the children for the sins of their fathers to the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> generation of those who hate me (visit, take note, oversee- for blessing or punishment- Gen 21:1, Ex 3:16, Lev 26:16)
  - But showing steadfast love & mercy (hesed, grace) to a 1,000 generations of those who love me and keep my commandments. (love- affection, Gen 22:2)

❖ FOLLOWING JESUS – THE HOW TO

- ✓ Learn a lesson from Jacob

Gen 35<sup>1</sup> Then God said to Jacob, "Go up to Bethel and settle there, and build an altar there to God, who appeared to you when you were fleeing from your brother Esau." <sup>2</sup>So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, "Get rid of the foreign gods you have with you, and purify yourselves and change your clothes." <sup>3</sup>Then come, let us go up to Bethel, where I will build an altar to God, who answered me in the day of my distress and who has been with me wherever I have gone." <sup>4</sup>So they gave Jacob all the foreign gods they had and the rings in their ears, and Jacob buried them under the oak at Shechem. <sup>5</sup>Then they set out, and the terror of God fell on the towns all around them so that no one pursued them.