

## Realize that God is God

This may seem like a silly title, after all, we **KNOW** that God is God. We examine scripture and we find time and time again that people were putting false gods, money, and their selfish desires above God. Are we guilty of that today?

Most of us when we think about the term “idolatry” we think of golden cows in the Old Testament. While this is PART of idolatry, I would submit that idolatry runs much deeper than that. It runs to our hearts. If there is anything more important than god, it is your idol.

### Some Biblical examples of idolatry.

- **Exodus 32-** When Moses was still on the mountain receiving commandments from God, the people turned to idols and began giving these idols credit for the good that has happened to them.
- **Genesis 35-** Those in Jacob’s house had turned to idols, in the passage Jacob assembled them all together and commanded them to “purify themselves.”
- **Leviticus 18-20-** The people began sacrificing their own children to the man-made god “Molech.”
- **Matthew 19:16-23-** Rich young ruler went away sorrowful because he had great possessions. So great he felt he could not give them up for Jesus.



## Modern examples of Idolatry.

Deuteronomy 6:14- “You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you”

Matthew 6:33- “But seek first the kingdom of God...”

Just because we may not physically bow down in worship to an object or person, this does not mean that we do not have idols. What are some ways that these things can become an idol?

- Money
- Education
- Technology
- Sports
- Family
- Country
- Job
- Friends
- Possessions (houses, cars, clothes, etc.)
- Self

# Families of Faith

## Putting God in His Rightful Place.

As we read through our Bible's the idolatry was ever- present. It was so prevalent in culture that it was addressed in the 10 commandments. However, as we have looked at, the Bible is not the only place we see idolatry, it is all around us still today. It is up to us to make sure God stays in his proper place as king of our lives. Let's examine how some of these things can show God that he is our top priority in life.

- Never make major decisions without prayer and study of the Word.
- We must make sure that worshipping God is not “an option” it is THE option.
- We must set an example that our pocketbook is not what guides our lives.
- We are very selective in what forms of media is allowed in our homes.
- We make sacrifices so that we can serve the Lord.



## Discussion!

1. What are some other “idols” that you see in our culture today?
2. What are some idols that your family struggles with?
3. What can I as a parent do to model a God centered life?
4. If God is our top priority in life, does that affect who we choose for a spouse?
5. How can we guard our children from idolatry?

***“Whoever finds his life, will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it” – Matthew 10:39***