

Sermon Discussion Guide

March 7, 2020

John 20:30-31

Responses & Reactions

- What disturbed you, challenged you, or intrigued you in this week's message?

Digging Deeper

- How does something God intends for good become an idol in our lives? Has this ever happened in your life? How did you overcome it?
- Most people in our lives don't worship idols in the classical sense. How would explain how we all still worship idols to someone who isn't a Christian?

Bringing it Home

- Review these 20 questions (adapted from Tim Keller) created to give you a sense of where your idols might be. Mark the ones that hit home as temptations for you. Discuss your results together.

"Life feels meaningful if/I have worth if/I am happiest when..."

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

