

**Opening—**

Begin in your full group. Reflecting back to the discussion from the past two weeks, answer this question: *How are our insecurities and our idols related and connected?*

Devote some time to prayer and confession. As a practice together, start your prayers with a simple time of confession. Take turns using this simple template to confess your idols: *God, I confess my idol of \_\_\_\_\_* (fill in the blank).

**Group Study—**

This week we will continue our conversation about idols by looking at God's Word and then get practical as to how we remove those idols from our lives.

In your large group, read Jeremiah 2:4-13; Romans 1:18-28 and discuss the following questions:

1. *Share an example of how you've seen the spiritual truth—we become what we worship—proven true in both positive and in negative ways?*
2. *How does God's analogy from Jeremiah 2:13 help us understand the nature of idols?*
3. *Have have the idols you have worshipped skewed you sense of identity?*

**Process Group Discussion—**

When we discover idols in our lives, the God honoring response is to remove them (2 Kings 18:3-4). He alone is worthy of our worship and our service. We are going to move into process groups and discuss practically how to remove those idols from our lives.

Take into account some things can be removed from our lives (i.e. work, possessions, other self-gratifying practices or behavior). However, if your idol is relational in nature (i.e. spouse, friends, kids), it may require you to redefine and restructure that relationship so it no longer takes God's place in your life rather than removing it altogether.

1. *In the most practical sense, how can you remove the idols you've identified from your life? Be specific and tangible in your responses.*
2. *How can you redirect your worship, that you were giving to that idol, back to Jesus? What does that look like practically?*
3. *How can those in your process group encourage you and help you to live free from that idol in the coming days, weeks, and months?*

## Further Consideration—

Sometimes removing the idols in our lives proves harder than we expect. Sometimes we can identify them and know in our heads that only God is worthy of our worship. Yet in our hearts we have doubts and fears and, deep down, we want to keep those idols. Sometimes we've become so dependent on them, it feels impossible to let go of them. Sometimes our fears tell us that God cannot provide those things that our idols have. If you find these statements to be true of you, we encourage you to take some extra time this week and press into Jesus with your doubts and fears. Use the series of questions below to open yourself to God and invite him to speak truth and freedom into your soul.

**What is my idol (name it)?** \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the desire or need I long to have fulfilled?

2. How does that idol promise to fulfill that need?

3. What have I experienced as a result of pursuing that idol?

4. How does Jesus promise to fulfill that need or desire?

5. What doubts or fears do I have that are keeping me from trusting Jesus to satisfy my heart?

6. What steps can I take to trust and worship Jesus today?

### Personal Reflection Questions—

1. How has Jesus proven himself faithful to provide for your needs this week as you have sought Him rather than idols for your fulfillment?
2. How have you tasted the freedom Jesus offers this week as you have lived free from your former idols?

### Group Preparation Questions—

1. To prepare your hearts for the next topic—Family of Origin—consider this question: *What are aspects from your family of origin you consider to be a blessing? What are aspects of your family of origin you consider to be a burden?*  
Jot down a few answers for each question above.