

The Idol of Self

August 27, 2023

Exodus 20:4-5 "You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods."

Idol : an object of extreme devotion, a representation or a symbol of an object of worship

"Everybody worships something. The only choice you get is what to worship." - **Timothy Keller**

Genesis 3:4-5 "...God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and **you will be like God**, knowing both good and evil."

vs.7 "At that moment their eyes were opened and they felt shame..."

When our pursuit of self awareness turns into self centeredness it will always end in shame.

1 Samuel 15:12 "Early the next morning Samuel went to find Saul. Someone told him, 'Saul went to town to set up a monument to himself...'"

We must always fight the temptation to set up monuments to ourselves!

Romans 1:18-25 - humans lose their way...

vs.23 "And instead of worshipping the glorious ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people..."

Romans 12:1 "And so, dear brothers and sisters,[a] I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him."

How have we elevated ourselves over God in our lives?

NEXT STEPS **Week 4 during the message!** Today's session is all about Partnership. If you have taken weeks 1-3 we invite you to complete Next Steps today. If you haven't, we will begin the class over again next Sunday.

ENCASA NEWSLETTER **Signup to Receive** Our NTC Family church in Cali, Colombia now has a newsletter to keep you up to date on the Wardenaar family and EnCasa. Visit our website to subscribe.

this week...

CROSS CURRENT **Tonight at 6pm** Our 7th-12th graders come together for a service designed for youth right here at the church!

PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY **Fridays at 9:30am** Pray for our nation together every Friday morning here at the church.

MENS GROUP **Saturdays at 8am** All men are invited to this weekly group that meets here at the church on Saturday mornings!

coming up...

SPECIAL SERVICE IN MALONE **September 6th at 6:30pm** Join us at Living Hope Church (57 Rennie St in Malone) for a special service with Dennis Balcombe who has worked as a missionary in China for over fifty years.

NIGHT CLASSES **Starting September 13th at 6:30pm** Join either Old Testament Survey or Freedom Groups on Wednesday Nights this fall. Learn more about the classes and register for them on ChurchCenter or on our website.

FOURTH COAST COMPANIONS TRAINING **September 13th at 10am** If you are interested in joining this initiative to help our elderly neighbors to age in place then register for this one day training. It will go from 10am to 3pm and lunch will be provided.

BRIDGE **Resumes September 14th at 6:00pm** 5th-7th Graders gather every other week throughout the school year for an evening just for them.

MOPS **Resumes September 21st at 10am or 6pm** Our moms groups are starting back up this fall. All moms are welcome to join this group that meets during the morning or evening every other Thursday.

MENS ONE DAY **Saturday, October 7th from 8:30am to 4:30pm** Mark your calendars men for "Building Firm," a day of connection, fun, and encouragement as we sharpen each other and grow together.