



## How Free People Live Week #2: Do Not Make Any Idols

*“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. 5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.”*

Exodus 20:4-6 (NIV)

### What is Idolatry?

- Idolatry is when something or someone is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart more than \_\_\_\_\_.

*They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen.*

Romans 1:25 (NLT)

### Why do idols fail us?

- There's no lasting \_\_\_\_\_ in their \_\_\_\_\_.

*Some people pour out their silver and gold  
and hire a craftsman to make a god from it.  
Then they bow down and worship it!*

*7 They carry it around on their shoulders,  
and when they set it down, it stays there.  
It can't even move!*

*And when someone prays to it, there is no answer.  
It can't rescue anyone from trouble.*

*8 “Do not forget this! Keep it in mind!*

*Remember this, you guilty ones.  
9 Remember the things I have done in the past.  
For I alone am God!  
I am God, and there is none like me.*

Isaiah 46:6-9 (NLT)

### **How to avoid idolatry:**

- Remember that God alone is your \_\_\_\_\_.
- Remember that God alone is your \_\_\_\_\_.
- Remember that God alone is \_\_\_\_\_.

*But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.*

Romans 5:8 (NLT)

**Bottom Line:** Keep your life \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Discussion Questions**

1. What are some common idols people today might "make for themselves"—not physically, but in their hearts—and how might these distract from loving God fully?
2. Why do you think we are often tempted to place our trust in created things instead of in the Creator?
3. How have you experienced the consequences of misplaced trust—in things, people, or even religious habits—that eventually failed to satisfy or sustain you?
4. What practices help you keep your heart centered on Christ as your source, provider, and ultimate love? How might you cultivate these practices more deeply this week?

### **Recommended Resources**

- [Counterfeit Gods, by Timothy Keller](#)
- [You Are What You Love, by James K. A. Smith](#)
- [The Anti-Greed Gospel, by Malcolm Foley](#)

(NIV) New International Version

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- Idolatry is when something or someone is loved, desired, or treasured in your heart more than God.

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Romans 1:25 (NLT)

### Why do idols fail us?

- There's no lasting power in their promise.

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and hire a craftsman to make a god from it.  
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Isaiah 46:6-9 (NLT)

### How to avoid idolatry:

- Remember that God alone is your provider.
- Remember that God alone is your source.

- Remember that God alone is worthy.

*But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.*

Romans 5:8 (NLT)

**Bottom Line:** Keep your life focused on Christ.

### Discussion Questions

1. What are some common idols people today might "make for themselves"—not physically, but in their hearts—and how might these distract from loving God fully?
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