

On Idols and Idolatry (7/16/23)

Main Verses: Isaiah 42:17

Key Verse: Isaiah 42:17

'Takeaway': God's word tells us that, long ago, pretend gods had names, and people wrongly worshiped statues of them. But God's word also helps us recognize today's pretend gods.

Getting Started: Have you ever watched or heard of the TV show American Idol? What is an idol?



READ: Isaiah 42:17 (or have older kids help read).

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- What is an idol and idolatry?
- Why does God warn us about them?
- How would you know if you were trusting in an idol?
- What's the correction for trusting in something other than God?

Elementary:

- Why does God warn us about idols and idolatry?
- How would you know if you were trusting in an idol?
- What is the result of trusting in an idol?
- What's the correction for trusting in something other than God?

Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses:

Toddler/PreK:

- An idol is something man-made (or a person) that we worship instead of God.
- Every foolish object of trust will eventually lead us to shame and disgrace.
- God, through Jesus, has provided a way for us to trust him and follow him with our whole being.
- God's word helps us recognize idols and idolatry, and teaches us how to live for him instead.

Elementary:

- An idol is something man-made (or a person) that we worship instead of God.
- Every foolish object of trust will eventually lead us to shame and disgrace.
- God's passion for his glory and his people will allow no obstacle to stop his plans and purposes. (see vs 15-16)
- God, through Jesus, has provided a way for us to trust him and follow him with our whole being.
- God's word helps us recognize idols and idolatry; it teaches us how to live for him instead. He will never abandon his people.

An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

(Toddler/PreK) Talk to God and thank him for his word that helps us recognize idols and idolatry. Thank God that he teaches us how to live for him instead. Ask God to help you, through Jesus, to trust him and follow him with your whole being.

(Elementary) Talk to God and thank him for his word that helps us recognize idols and idolatry. Thank God that he teaches us how to live for him instead. Ask God to search your heart and life and reveal any idols you might have that are keeping you from worshipping him alone. Ask him to help you, through Jesus, to trust him and follow him with your whole being.