



the credibility gap

WEEK 2 - Idolatry vs. Surrender

OVERVIEW

One of the greatest contributions to the credibility gap in our culture is how many Christians in the public eye have vocally proclaimed commitment to Jesus while demonstrating misplaced allegiance to idols such as wealth, power, sex, and fame. If we want to reach those turned off by this kind of behavior, we must honestly and humbly root out the influences in our lives tempting us toward misplaced allegiances of our own and redouble our efforts to ensure Grace Church is wholly devoted to Christ.

So now that you know God (or should I say that God knows you), why do you want to go back again and become slaves once more to the weak and useless spiritual principles of this world?

Galatians 4:9

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Describe someone that you feel is wholly devoted to Christ. Share a few specific behaviors they demonstrate that have led you to this conclusion.
2. *No man can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be more devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.* Matthew 6:24 What are some obvious modern day idols? What are some "not so obvious" idols we may have in our lives?
3. Share some ways you have seen the name of Christ co-opted for man-made purposes.
4. How would you describe to someone what it's like to truly surrender?
5. Colossians 2:8 warns, "don't let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ." In what ways can we safeguard against this?
6. Barry gives us three ideas to help us ensure our allegiances are not to idols, but to Christ and his kingdom: 1) wealth is not your god 2) Christ is not a label, and 3) we are not enemies. What are some first steps we can take to begin living this out?

RESOURCES

gracechurch.us