



for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ (9) and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; (10) that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,"

(Jeremiah 9:23-24) "Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty man glory in his might, Nor let the rich man glory in his riches; {24} But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the LORD."

(Jeremiah 17:7-10) ""Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, And whose hope is the LORD.

{8} For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, Which spreads out its roots by the river, And will not fear when heat comes; But its leaf will be green, And will not be anxious in the year of drought, Nor will cease from yielding fruit. {9} "The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it? {10} I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings." **(Jeremiah 17:13)** "O LORD, the hope of Israel, All who forsake You shall be ashamed. ""



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Please feel free to contact the Pastor for any needs you may have, queries, or questions about our church family.

Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Idol Detectors

Questions to Ask Yourself *as you search your own heart*

- What do you want, desire, seek, aim for, pursue, hope for?
- What are your goals, expectations, intentions?
- What do you feel like doing?
- Where do you look for security, meaning, happiness, fulfillment, joy, or comfort? Where do you put your 'basic trust'?
- What would make you happy?
- What do you fear? What do you tend to worry about?
- What do you love and hate most of all?
- How do you define success or failure in a particular situation?
- What image do you have of who you are? Ought to be or want to be?
- At your deathbed what, to you, would sum up your life as worthwhile?
- What do you see as your 'rights'?
- When you are pressured or tense, where do you turn? What do you think about?
- What do you pray for?

What do you need to make life work?

- ◆ What do I not have in my life that, if I only had, I believe would make me happy?
- ◆ What do I now have, that, if taken away, would leave me unhappy or devastated?
- ◆ What do I have now that I spend a lot of time maintaining and would struggle to keep?
- ◆ What is it that I now have in my life that I can't live without?





People

Idols



(Hebrews 4:12) "For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

(Matthew 11:28-30) "'Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. {29} 'Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. {30} 'For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.'"

We need to make three Scriptural statements today about the idolatry of our hearts:

1. _____ is the attraction, Ezekiel 14:1-8

(Jeremiah 2:11) "Has a nation changed its gods, Which are not gods? But My people have changed their Glory For what does not profit."

(Jeremiah 2:13) "'For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, And hewn themselves cisterns; broken cisterns that can hold no water."

(Exodus 20:2-3) "'I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. {3} 'You shall have no other gods before Me."

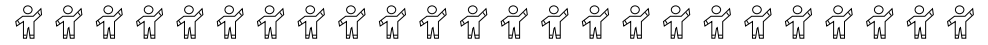
(Romans 1:21-23) "because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. {22} Professing to be wise, they became fools, {23} and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man; and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things."

(1 John 2:15-16) "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. {16} For all that is in the world; the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life; is not of the Father but is of the world."

(1 John 4:1) "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world."

(1 John 5:21) "Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen."

(James 4:1-3) "Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? {2} You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You



fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. {3} You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures."

(Colossians 3:5) "Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry."

2. _____ is the main danger, Ezekiel 14:3

◆ Idols cannot _____ what they _____, Jeremiah 2:13

◆ Idols lead to further _____,

(Deuteronomy 5:6-7) "'I am the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. {7} 'You shall have no other gods before Me."

(Matthew 6:24) "'No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

(Matthew 6:33) "'But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

(Colossians 1:18) "And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence."

(James 1:15) "Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death."

◆ Idols _____,

(Romans 6:17-18) "But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. {18} And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness."

(Romans 6:20-22) "For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. {21} What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. {22} But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life."

(Ephesians 6:12) "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."

(1 Thessalonians 1:8-9) "... Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything. {9} ... how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,"



3. _____ should be our response, Matthew 11:28-30

(Matthew 13:44-46) "'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. {45} 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, {46} 'who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it."

(Philippians 3:7-10) "But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. {8} Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord,

