

American Idols: Introduction

How have the idols of American culture hindered us from becoming more fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ?

How has looking at life through lenses that are pleasure seeking, capitalistic, sports oriented, and always-on-the-go affected our walk with God and others?

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness—Declaration of Independence (2nd sentence).

1. Idols are objects of **worship**.

You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God am a jealous God... —Exodus 20:5

Idol defined: *“Something other than God that we are tempted to worship, emulate, or believe will save us.”*

We think American Idols are means of salvation that bring us life, liberty and pursuit of happiness.

2. Idols are **Human** Crafted (politically correct for man made)

You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. —Exodus 20:4

Read Isaiah 44

Idols of American Culture are of our making; they were not given to us.

3. Idols are **nothing**

*This is what the LORD says— Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is **no God**.* —Isaiah 44:6

Conclusion: God calls us to worship the **Creator**

Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. ³Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. ⁴Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. —Psalm 100:2-4

Exodus 20:2-3, Isaiah 44:21

If idols are nothing, what is the problem?

We miss the real God, our Creator and Redeemer.
We miss the grace of God.

“Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs.” —Jonah 2:8

Over the next 5 weeks, we will expose 5 idols of American culture that unknown to us, hinder us from becoming more passion and compassionate followers of Jesus Christ.

January 18, Viva Las Vegas, pleasure-seeking society
January 25, The Mall, accumulation of things bring us safety and joy
February 1, The Big Game, fixation on sport, competition, and winning
February 8, Fame, celebrity worship
February 15, Wireless, always connected and always on the go makes life.