

The Essentials of Christian Idolatry

#2: Cursed Are Those Who Put Their Trust in Mere Humans

Jeremiah 17:5

Pastor Kurt

“Cursed are those who put their trust in mere humans” (Jer 17:5).

Primary Point: Worshipping people is the most powerful and painful idol in the world.

The greatest false god

(Jer 17:5-8; 1 Pet 3:4-6; Matt 10:32-37)

How do you know when you are worshipping a person instead of loving them? The answer is: How do you feel when they do not love you?

Another indication that a person is an idol in your life is that you are very afraid to displease them.

If you live to please God, then you will please the people you are supposed to please, and you will displease the people you are supposed to displease.

(1 Thess 2:4; Gal 1:10; Prov 29:25; Ps 27:10)

Your Dad wants you to love people like He does. But your Dad does not want you to depend on people loving you.

Overcoming the false god of people

No one but your real Dad will accurately recognize and adequately appreciate your true value. Your value has already been determined by your Dad's adoption and your Savior's sacrifice.

(1 Cor 4:3; Ps 62:7; John 5:16, 41-42)

Homework

- 1) Identify people who are making you afraid or angry.
- 2) Identify what need you are depending on them for.
- 3) Identify and accept a promise from God in Scripture that He will meet that need.

Discussion ?'s

- What was especially meaningful to you in this chapter? Why?
- Why do we claim that people are the most tempting idol in our life?
- What is the difference between loving people and worshipping them?
- How do you know when a person has become an idol in your life?
- How do you overcome a person who is an idol in your life?