

WE REJECT RIGHT WORSHIP

STORY: FALL

BIG TRUTH: WE REJECT RIGHT WORSHIP

Isaiah 28; 15; 29:13-16; 44:19-20; Jeremiah 10:12-160; Ezekiel 20:8; Amos 2:4; Habakkuk 2:18-2

BIBLE VERSE: ROMANS 1:24-25

"Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen."

BIG IDEAS

- God created us for worship.
- Sin is an intentional and willful rejection of right worship.
- In our sin, we follow our heart instead of aiming our heart.
- We worship the creature instead of the Creator.

BIBLE STORY: ISAIAH 44:6-20

There is no God like God. He is the only true God, yet people reject Him and make false gods and idols to worship. Those who worship false gods will be put to shame because there is only one God. Our sinful hearts lead us to make idols, and we, too, will be put to shame for worshiping anything other than the true God.

STORY: FALL

Everything was perfect in the world until we broke it. When humanity chose to sin, the world that was once perfect became messed up and broken. Sin is ultimately a rejection of God Himself. Because of sin bad things happen, we experience all types of pain, and death has come into the world. All of creation groans and wishes that the world be perfect and good like it was before.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know that:

- All people are broken in sin and suffer consequences because of sin.



Every child should:

- View sin as disobedience against God and His plan.



Every child should feel:

- Burdened by the reality of sin.



Every child should want:

- To be rescued from a life of sin and brokenness.

FAMILY DEVOTION: A HEART OF WORSHIP

Our hearts are wicked and sinful. When we follow our hearts, we reject the true God and seek to create false gods and idols to worship. We worship the created things instead of worshiping the Creator. Our hearts do not worship the one true God as they were created to do.

BIBLE VERSE: ROMANS 1:24-25

"Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen."

Our hearts are wicked and sinful.

- Our hearts are full of our sinful desires.
- The things we desire or long for are not Godly things because of the sin in our heart.
- Our hearts are impure and dishonest. We believe lies instead of the truth because our hearts lead us that way.
- Because our hearts are wicked, we even dishonor our bodies, which are created in the image of the one true God.
- We practice immorality and worship things other than God.

We are created to worship God.

- God has made every person to worship Him.
- We are most fulfilled when we are worshiping the one true God with our minds, hearts, souls, and bodies.
- God did not make us to worship the things that He created, yet we choose the creature over the Creator.
- God made us for a relationship with Him.
- We are created to make God the center of our lives and to follow Him in obedience.

When we worship anything other than God, we worship false gods.

- Because we are created to worship, we all do and will worship something or someone.
- Because we are sinful, we create things to worship. We create false gods and idols to worship instead of worshiping the one true God.
- We worship the created things that He made instead of worshiping Him.
- We look at His creation and declare its glory without falling down in worship of the One who created it.

BIBLE STORY: ISAIAH 44:6-20

The Folly of Idolatry

Opening Illustration:

Bring in enough tall socks for each child to have one. Bring in several bags of dry beans or rice. Use a plastic cup to fill the bottom portion of the sock with rice or beans. Help the children tie the sock using the tall section of the sock. Double knot the sock so the rice and beans are secure. Next, mark a spot on the floor. Have the children take turns standing far away from the mark and tossing their beanbag socks. Talk with the children about how no matter how hard we try we still miss the mark. Talk with them about how we cannot save ourselves or fix our brokenness.

- We may try hard every day, but we cannot save ourselves.
- Only Jesus can pay our sin debt and give us salvation.

BIG IDEA: GOD CREATED US FOR WORSHIP.¹**All things are created for God's glory.**

- Everything that God created He created for Himself.
- God made the heavens and the earth to declare His glory.
- He created all life on the earth and in the heavens to declare His glory.
- God created mankind in His image to bring Himself glory.
- Everything is created to worship God as the one true God.
- God is deserving of all worship and praise because He's God!



Help the children think through ways we can worship God by sharing different ways that the church worships. For example, share some of the songs that your church sings in worship and share some of the verses that you find help express worship to God. Remind the children that we are created to worship God.

We bring God glory when we worship Him.

- God is glorified by us when we are worshiping Him with our hearts and lives.
- When we submit our lives to His will and we seek to bring Him glory, we are worshiping God.
- When we turn our minds and hearts to God and seek to praise Him, we are worshiping God.
- God is glorified through our submission to His commands and His way.
- We fulfill our created purpose when we worship God.

We are most fulfilled when we worship God.

- The only way for us to be most satisfied and fulfilled is when we are worshiping God.
- God created us for worship and we will worship something.
- We can worship many things, but the truth is that we will not be satisfied and fulfilled unless we are worshiping God.
- Praising God and thanking Him for who He is and what He has done brings us the most satisfaction.

Why did God create people? (We were created to worship God. Worship is written on our hearts and if we don't worship God, we will worship something.)

1. Isaiah 43:21: God formed His people to worship Him. We are created for His worship.

BIG IDEA: SIN IS AN INTENTIONAL AND WILLFUL REJECTION OF RIGHT WORSHIP.²

Sin leads us to reject God as the true God.

- Our sin nature causes a spiritual blindness that causes us to turn away from God.
- We do not seek things that are pleasing to God. We seek things that are pleasing to ourselves.
- We choose to follow our own hearts and rebel against God's Word.
- We put ourselves first instead of putting God and others first.
- We seek our own desires instead of considering others more important than ourselves.



As a group, have the children create a list of that describes right worship and then a list that describes wrong worship. Talk with the children about how easy it is for us to reject right worship. Remind them that our sin leads us to reject right worship.

Sin leads us to create idols.

- Just like God's people created idols to worship, we create idols to worship instead of worshiping God.
- Because of our sin and the darkness of our hearts, we desire sinful things over the things of God.
- In our hearts, we love other things more than we love God.
- It is not difficult for us to place a greater value on a created thing rather than the Creator.
- A result of our sinfulness is that we succumb to idol worship and we intentionally reject right worship.

Sin leads us to not fulfill our created purpose.

- God created us to worship Him and to be in a relationship with Him.
- When we worship other things, we are not fulfilling our created purpose. We are rejecting right worship and living in rebellion to God.
- We do not live fulfilled lives when we are worshiping anything other than God.
- Worshiping God fulfills our created purpose and brings us satisfaction.
- Idol worship is a vain, futile thing. Idols are not the one true God and they cannot work in our lives the way that God can. This leaves us empty.

How is our sin a willful rejection of right worship? (We reject worshiping God and worship false idols instead. We reject God and rebel against Him.)

2. Ezekiel 20:8: God's people created idols and worshiped false gods instead of worshiping the one true God.

BIG IDEA: IN OUR SIN, WE FOLLOW OUR HEART INSTEAD OF AIMING OUR HEART.³**Our hearts are deceitful and sick.**

- We are born sinful. Every part of us is affected by our sin nature.
- Our hearts cannot be trusted. We cannot assume that because we feel something is right that it is.
- Because of our sin nature, our hearts are not pure and holy. They lead us to pursue the things that make us happy and not the things that bring God glory.
- We do not seek God on our own. He draws us to Himself by the Holy Spirit.
- Our sin causes us to follow our hearts instead of following God.



Give the children a piece of paper in the shape of an arrow and some markers. Ask the children to think of the things they can do to bring God glory and then write them on their arrows. Remind the children that just like we aim an arrow at a target, we should aim our hearts to follow God's Word and not our own desires.

Our sinfulness shows we follow our hearts.

- Our words and actions reveal what is in our hearts.
- Our sinful actions show just how sinful and deceitful our hearts are.
- Because we continue to sin, we reveal that we follow our wicked hearts instead of aiming our hearts, or seeking to align our hearts with God's commands.
- God's people didn't aim their hearts toward God; instead, they followed their hearts and began worshiping idols.

Our goal should be to submit our hearts to God's ways.

- Once we have repented of our sin and believed in Jesus, we should aim to submit our hearts to God's ways.
- We should not follow our heart because it will lead us to please ourselves and not God.
- When we are seeking to glorify God, we will align our hearts with God's will and we will reject our own.

What causes us to follow our hearts instead of aiming them? (Our sinfulness leads us to choose our own sinful desires over God.)

3. Matthew 15:9: When we follow our hearts, we reject God and place a greater value on ourselves than on worshiping Him.

BIG IDEA: WE WORSHIP THE CREATURE INSTEAD OF THE CREATOR.⁴**We exchange the truth about God for a lie.**

- Our sin nature affects every part of our lives. It affects our minds, our bodies, our hearts, and our souls.
- It leads us down a path of death and destruction.
- God has revealed Himself in His creation and yet, we suppress the truth about Him and choose to believe lies instead.
- We create a different narrative to explain God's creation and our own lives.
- We exchange what is true about God for the lies of Satan and our own sinful hearts.



Divide the children into two teams and give each team a marker. Ask the teams to race one another to see who can list the most created things that we tend to worship in a set time limit. Remind the children that we worship the created things instead of the Creator.

We worship the created things instead of God, the Creator.

- When we exchange the truth about God for a lie, we worship other things.
- Because we are created to worship God, when we are not worshiping Him, we are worshiping something.
- We worship the created things, idols and false gods that we created, instead of the actual Creator.
- This leads us farther down the path of destruction because our hope is placed in earthly things and we are left feeling empty.
- When we worship idols, we are worshiping things that are created when we could be worshiping the Creator.

What do we worship when we don't worship God? (We worship the created things.)

4. Romans 1:25: We exchange the truth about God for a lie and worship the created things instead of the Creator.

HOOKS

**Pin The Idol On The Heart**

Place a large heart on the wall and give each child a smaller heart. Ask the children to write down something that is an idol or could be an idol in their lives. Help them with ideas of the things that we often make idols. Next, blindfold the children and have them try to pin the idol on the large heart on the wall. Lead them in a discussion about how we follow our deceptive hearts instead of aiming them and we worship idols instead of the true God.

**Two Lies And A Truth**

Play a game of two lies and a truth with the children. Ask the children to take turns naming two lies and one truth about themselves. The other children have to guess which of the three statements is a lie. The child to correctly guess the lie gets to go next. Once the children have had a turn, lead the children in a discussion about how we exchange the truth about God for a lie and worship the created things instead of the Creator.

