



Men's Huddle
January 28, 2010
From Cheaters to Seekers
Jeff Walser

I. Idols Defined

“The human heart is a factory of idols...
Everyone of us is, from his mother's womb,
an expert in inventing idols”

John Calvin

A. It is anything _____

_____ than _____.

B. There are many ways to describe that kind of relationship to something, but perhaps the best one is _____.

C. Defined in the first and second commandments: (Exodus 20: 3,4)

1. You shall have no other gods before _____.

2. You shall not make for yourself an _____
in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the
waters below. You shall not bow down to them or _____ them.

D. At its most basic level, idolatry is _____ on God.

E. The bad news is that idols will never _____. (Jeremiah 2)

F. The good news is God wants to transform us from _____ to
_____.

II. Idols in the 8th Century B.C.

A. Hosea's Story (Chapters 1-3)

B. Hosea's Messages (Chapter 4-14)

III. Idols in the 21st Century A.D.

A. The seduction of success

B. The story of Nate Larkin

IV. Owning our Idols

“Though few will own it, nothing is more common. Idols are set-up in every room of
our lives, in every faculty.”

David Clarkson

17th Century Minister

A. What has _____ you deep?

B. Where and how are you _____ on God.

V. Towards a plan to _____, not just _____ our idols.

A. Put up _____ against destructive idols in your life.

“Throw out your calf-idols, O Samaria.”

Hosea 8:5

B. Create _____ in your life to _____ God.

“My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge.”

Hosea 4:6

“Let us acknowledge the Lord, let us press on to acknowledge him.”

Hosea 6:3

C. Think _____, think _____,

think _____.

“Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God...”

Hosea Chapter 14

“God calls us to **repent** – to **turn from** a life distracted, crushed and crippled by cheating, and to **turn to** a life guided, empowered, made beautiful and fruitful by seeking”

Questions

1. What did you relate to most in the story of Hosea?
2. Have you, can you identify any “idols” in your life? How have they impacted your choices and your fruitfulness?
3. What decisions are you willing to make to put up boundaries against idols and see God in a greater way?