

AMONG AMERICAN GODS

A SERIES ON THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

This week, Derek continued our new series called Among American Gods that examines the Ten Commandments and how they confront the idols of the American life.

READ

Exodus 20:4-6

REFLECT

1. Derek began by explaining the anatomy of idolatry as described by the three prohibitions in today's text: "do not make," "do not bow down," and "do not worship." Derek then linked idolatry to a quote from Martin Luther: "whatever your heart clings to and confides in, that is really you God, your functional savior." What things are you clinging to? What idols are you making, bowing down to, and worshipping?
2. Derek discussed the allure of idolatry by retelling the story of Adam and Eve. He said that "every idol promises two things: you shall surely not die and you can be like God." He also talked about the order of blessing in obedience as applies to making idols of things that are good. What are some good things that you have let become idols by trying to obtain it apart from God?
3. During his last section, not he agony of idolatry, Derek said that we should avoid idolatry at all costs because "idols always lead to our diminishment" and "idols try to rob you of covenant blessing." How have you experienced these consequences in your life?

PRAY

- + Confess to God how often we allow our lives to revolve around our own desires.
- + Thank God for providing a path toward repentance.
- + Pray for renewal in our Church, our Community, and our City.

PRACTICE

- + Early on in the sermon, Derek asked some challenging questions. Spend some time thinking through your answers and share them with your group, family, or a friend.
 - Where do you find your ultimate significance and worth and value during this season of your life?
 - What do you fear the most in your life?
 - What do you turn to for rescue?
- + Derek closed the sermon by speaking of rhythms of renewal and the spiritual discipline of Examen. This week, commit to practicing Examen by reflecting on your day by asking two questions:
 - When did I cling to and confide in God the most today?
 - When did I cling to or confide in God the least today?"