

1 CORINTHIANS
CALLED OUT
SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM



Sermon: **Christ Won't Mix with Demons (1 Corinthians 10:14-22)**

Date: **December 2, 2016**

One of the more prevalent issues that the apostle Paul addressed in his first letter to the Corinthians is the problem of eating food that had been sacrificed to idols in pagan temples. Not only did this cause weaker Christians to stumble, but the 'mature' Christians themselves were in danger of idolatry when they ate at these pagan temples. They needed to take heed lest they fell. In this week's text, Paul calls the Corinthians to flee from idolatry. It's not a matter of seeing how close you can get to the fire without getting burned. It's a matter of running as far away from it as you can. In 1 Corinthians 10:14-22, Paul encourages the church in Corinth to flee from false religions and false belief systems. Christians have been called out of the darkness and into the kingdom of God. Thus, we cannot mix the celebration of an unchristian lifestyle with Christianity. Rather, we must flee from false religion. This is the imperative that Paul has been building up to throughout chapter 10. God is jealous for his own glory. He will not share it. We must flee from idolatry.

What you need for this study: Bible, Notebook, Pen

Individual Bible Study

1. Please read 1 Corinthians 10:14-22 and ensure that you've listened to Sunday's sermon.
 - a. Why does Paul begin verse 14 with the word "therefore"?
 - b. What does Paul mean by the term "idolatry"? Define it.
 - c. Paul commands the Corinthians to "flee from idolatry" in verse 14. Why is it an act of love to command people to get out of false beliefs?
 - d. List some examples of idolatry and false belief systems that are widespread in our culture today.
 - e. Read verses 16-17. How is the Lord's supper fellowship with the Lord? How is it fellowship with one another?
 - f. How is Israel's Old Testament sacrificial system similar to the Lord's Supper (see verse 18)?
 - g. What is the context of what we are learning? Why is it necessary to remember the context of chapters 8-10 in order to better understand this week's text?

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- h. Read verses 19-20. How is a false religious service similar to the Lord's Supper? How is it different than the Lord's Supper?
- i. What does verse 20 as well as Deuteronomy 32:17 tell us about false religions and their services?
- j. How would attending something like a yoga class or a gay wedding be problematic for the Christian?
- k. What does it mean that God is jealous (v. 22)? How should God's jealousy motivate us to flee from false religions? (Other relevant Scriptures: Deuteronomy 32:21; Exodus 20:4-5; Exodus 34:14; Deuteronomy 4:23-24)

Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the sermon and the Bible study this week?
2. What are some examples of idolatry and false belief systems that we see in our culture today?
3. How can we boldly call people to forsake false beliefs and false religions? Why is this an act of love?
4. Why is it wrong for a Christian to find themselves at something like a yoga class or a gay wedding? What would you say to a Christian who believes they can attend these types of events with a clear conscience because they do not hold to the false beliefs that are embedded in these events?
5. God is jealous for his own glory. Why should that truth motivate us to flee from idolatry? What can we do to be more captivated by the glory of God so that we are quicker to flee from idols?

Accountability Question

Are there any idols or false beliefs in your life that you need to forsake so that you can walk more closely with God?