

## Life Group Notes 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021

### Warnings against idolatry – 1 Corinthians 10:1-22

**What did God speak to you about on Sunday? What can you remember from Rob's message?**

Paul warns the church to consider the Exodus story. The Israelites, with all their privileges, did not fulfil their responsibilities and live in a way that honoured God. They still hungered after other things, and even their old life back in Egypt, which provoked the LORD's jealousy.

Paul's warning to the church is the same: we have been saved through Christ, but we also have responsibilities in how we live as God's people. Grace is not an excuse to do whatever we want, as it may dishonour God. Do not be unaware!

**In what ways does the Exodus story shadow the salvation that Christ has won for his people?**

Paul warns both the Israelites and the church in Corinth (and therefore us) that God's jealousy is provoked when his people go after other gods or allow idols to take place in their lives. In the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), God was clear that his people were not to make idols in any form. Jesus summed all the commandments with, "love the Lord your God with all your heart with all your soul with all your mind and with all your strength and love your neighbour as yourself." Luke 10:27

J. John (in his book, Ten) suggests that, all humans are prone to worship something that isn't God. And, "Idolatry has always been there and always will be there. The only thing that changes is the nature of the idols." Idols do not always take the form of golden statues.

**How can good things (such as sex, sport, jobs or money) become idols? Why can they draw us away from fully worshipping God?**

God is a jealous God. He is jealous to protect the honour of his name as the one and only true God.

See: Exodus 20:4, Isaiah 48:11, Deuteronomy 4:23-24, Numbers 25:10-13

Wayne Grudem (in his book, Bible Doctrine) says:

*"It is healthy for us spiritually when we settle in our hearts the fact that God deserves all honour and glory from His creation, and that it is right for him to seek this honour. He alone is infinitely worthy of being praised. To realize this fact and to delight in it is to find the secret of true worship."*

**Do you agree? Why?**

**Read v13 together.**

*Paul reassures us that everyone gets tempted and the ways we are tempted are common to all.*

*Paul promises that God is faithful and will provide a way to escape temptation. Consider Jesus' temptations in the wilderness (Matthew 4) and how he was able to stand against them.*

**In what ways has God helped you escape times of temptation?**

**Pray for a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit. Pray for one another for God's strength to face specific areas of temptations (if comfortable to share).**