

MARCH 8, 2026
- EAST POINTE
- AARON OVERMAN

Text: Numerous verses

Title: Idols

Topic: How To Identify Idols

➤ Idolatry is the worship of anything other than the one true God, elevating created things such as wealth, power, image, or false deities to a position of ultimate trust, love, or devotion.

➤ Idolatry is the act of committing spiritual _____ against our Lord

➤ Four practical ways to guard ourselves from idols

- 1. Examine our strongest emotions
- 2. Track our resources
- 3. Identify our functional savior
- 4. Look for evil stumbling blocks

○ We must identify evil stumbling blocks in our lives that are fueling our idolatry.

➤ Identifying idolatry requires a true examination of the _____.

➤ Psalms 139:23-24 "Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

➤ 1. We must examine our strongest emotions.

- Our strongest emotions often act as the smoke that points to the _____ of idolatry in our heart.

➤ 2. We must track our resources.

- Matthew 6:19-21 "19 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

○ How do we use our resources of:

- The mind
- Our time
- Our finances

➤ 3. Identifying our functional savior

- I run to _____ before running to God?

2 ~ 4

- Who or what do you go to when you have a bad day? Where do you turn when you are stressed to the max?

- Who or what is your refuge? Who or what acts as your functional savior?

➤ 4. Look for evil stumbling blocks

- Ezekial 14:3 says, "Son of man, these men have taken their idols into their hearts, and set the stumbling block of their iniquity before their faces. Should I indeed let myself be consulted by them?"

- Are we willing to sin? What is it we want?

What is it we don't want to lose so much so that we sin to get it or keep it?

- Do we have a demanding spirit? Do we crave something so bad that we demand God or others to give it to us?

3 - 4