



EPISODE: 534

TITLE: **Control, Approval, Comfort, Power. Why We Chase False Gods**

Tackling the idols of control, approval, comfort and power is hard work... but ultimately, it is God's work! If you will let him.

Here are three things to believe and consider about the idols in your life:

1. **We all have hidden idols...big and small.** An idol is anything more important to you than God, anything that absorbs your heart and imagination more than God, anything you seek to give you what only God can give. Focusing on who God is, what he has already done for you in Christ, and what is now true of you will lead you out of idolatry.
2. **God knows you perfectly and loves you unconditionally. He gave his own life that you may know and believe this!** Pay attention when your heart is saying, *"If I have that, then I'll feel my life has meaning... then I'll know I have value, or, then I'll feel significant and secure."* Remember that you are a son or daughter of the King of Kings and co-heirs of all things in Christ. That is pretty (very) significant!
3. **Spend time in prayer asking the Spirit to point out any areas of life you are worshiping false gods.** He will illuminate past conversations, anxiety, stresses, desires. Write these down as you hear them. Then seek to understand which of the idols of CONTROL, APPROVAL, COMFORT or POWER are at work here and stealing your worship and devotion to the One true God. Repentance is a renewing of the mind to what is *actually* true in those situations. Now, go live in light of that truth by the power of the Spirit.

***See the 4 Root Idols below...***

**Heads up...** If you want to learn more, get a copy of Caesar's latest book, ***Bigger Gospel*** [here for free](#).

**Find out more about achieving breakthroughs in disciple-making by being a part of the Everyday Disciple MAKERS coaching:** [everydaydisciple.com/coaching](http://everydaydisciple.com/coaching)

Thanks for listening... we'll see you in the next episode!

***~Caesar***

## **CONTROL**

Desire: Self-discipline, certainty, standards for us and everyone else  
Price We Will Pay: Overworked, Loneliness  
Greatest Nightmare: Uncertainty  
Others Often Feel: Condemned, pushed  
Problem Emotion: Worry, fear

*God is Great...*so I don't have to be in control (of people or situations). Jesus was raised from the dead when it seemed that all was lost.

Question to ask yourself: Am I REALLY in control of this situation, or person, or their actions or response to me? Who is REALLY in control of ALL things?

## **APPROVAL**

Desire: Affirmation, love, relationship  
Price We Will Pay: Inauthenticity, co-dependency  
Greatest Nightmare: Rejection  
Others Often Feel: Smothered  
Problem Emotion: Insecurity

*God is Glorious...*so I don't have to fear others. Jesus took our rejection and earned us full approval before the Father.

Question to ask yourself: Why do I so desire this person's approval or for them to like me? Did that person or thing die for me to bring forgiveness and restoration to my life?

## **COMFORT**

Desire: Privacy, lack of stress, freedom, easy life  
Price We Will Pay: Ineffectiveness, selfishness  
Greatest Nightmare: Stress, demands, pain or loss  
Others Often Feel: Hurt by us  
Problem Emotion: Boredom, discontentment

*God is Good...*So I don't have to look elsewhere for my satisfaction. Jesus is the Father's greatest gift to us and he is enough.

Question to ask yourself: Am I trying to fill my life with things that I believe are BETTER than God? IS this time, experience, situation better, more good than God. Where does my true affection lay?

## **POWER**

Desire: Success, influence  
Price We Will Pay: Burdened, responsibility  
Greatest Nightmare: Humiliation, lack of respect  
Others Often Feel: Used by us  
Problem Emotion: Anger

*God is Gracious...*so I don't have to prove myself (to my self...to others...to God). Jesus gave up his authority and power on the cross to secure our position in the Kingdom.

Question to ask yourself: What am I trying to earn from this person or situation? Is it already mine as a dearly beloved child of our Father in heaven? What is my true identity, authority and privilege as a daughter or son of the King?!