

- I. ONE THING—The One Thing that I'd like to take away from today's class and believe God to accomplish in my life is:

II. RECEIVING AND APPLYING GOD'S WORD:

- A. Martyn Lloyd Jones says, "An idol is anything in our lives that occupies the place that should be occupied by God alone. It is anything that holds my life and my devotion, anything that is central in my life, anything that seems to be vital, or anything that is essential to me; an idol is anything by which I live and on which I depend. Anything that moves, rouses, attracts and stimulates me is an idol. An idol is anything that I worship, anything to which I give much of my time, attention, energy and money; anything that holds a controlling passion in my life is an idol."

We may depend on an idol, rather than on God, to meet our legitimate needs.

B. Detecting Idols

1. Who or what have you been seeking other than God to meet your legitimate need for love and acceptance?

Below are some things we look for from people to meet our need for love and acceptance. Circle the ones that you want from people the most, and then use a Bible search engine (www.crosswalk.com) to find a verse that shows you how God meets that need for you. Write the verses below.

Admiration, affection, affirmation, agreement, applause, appreciation
approval, attention, sense of belonging, cared for, commitment, defended,
delighted in, gifts, honor, invitations, physical touch, popularity, being pursued
or sought out, respect, service, understanding, validated, or welcomed

Verse:

Verse:

2. What have you been seeking other than God to meet your need for significance/value/worth?

Common pursuits for significance include wealth, possessions, works and position.

Be specific as God identifies your idols. Write verses below that show how God meets your need for significance/value/worth.

Verse:

Verse:

3. What have you been seeking other than God to meet your need for emotional safety and security?

These are usually idols that give us comfort and control:

Comfort: addictions, avoiding conflict/pain, hiding my true self, withdrawing

Control: discipline, entitlements, expectations of a person or situation, image, over planning, status quo, structure, rules, self sufficiency, self protection, traditions

Write verses to show how God meets your need for emotional safety and security.

Verse:

Verse:

- C. Continue to practice the presence of the Lord this week and to listen to His voice through the Word and His Spirit. Keep a journal of your times with Him this week.