

THE BATTLE OF IDOLS

**HOW TO
FIGHT**
OUR BATTLES



Main Passage: Ezekiel 14:1-11

Big Idea: God doesn't just want to deal with your idols—He wants your whole heart.

You can't have revival until you tear down the idol.



HIDDEN ROOM ANALOGY

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Point: We often do the same with God—we give Him access to parts of our life, but hold back areas we don't want to surrender.

The parts we aren't willing to give are the parts keeping us from full surrender to God and they are the parts we need to tear down the most.



EZEKIEL

14: 1-11

Ezekiel 14:1-3 NLT

Then some of the leaders of Israel visited me, and while they were sitting with me, [2] this message came to me from the LORD: [3] "Son of man, these leaders have set up idols in their hearts. They have embraced things that will make them fall into sin. Why should I listen to their requests?"



Ezekiel 14:4-5 NLT

Tell them, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: The people of Israel have set up idols in their hearts and fallen into sin, and then they go to a prophet asking for a message. So I, the LORD, will give them the kind of answer their great idolatry deserves. [5] I will do this to capture the minds and hearts of all my people who have turned from me to worship their detestable idols.'



Ezekiel 14:6-8 NLT

"Therefore, tell the people of Israel, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Repent and turn away from your idols, and stop all your detestable sins. [7] I, the LORD, will answer all those, both Israelites and foreigners, who reject me and set up idols in their hearts and so fall into sin, and who then come to a prophet asking for my advice. [8] I will turn against such people and make a terrible example of them, eliminating them from among my people. Then you will know that I am the LORD.



Ezekiel 14:9-11 NLT

"'And if a prophet is deceived into giving a message, it is because I, the LORD, have deceived that prophet. I will lift my fist against such prophets and cut them off from the community of Israel. [10] False prophets and those who seek their guidance will all be punished for their sins. [11] In this way, the people of Israel will learn not to stray from me, polluting themselves with sin. They will be my people, and I will be their God. I, the Sovereign LORD, have spoken!'"



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OUTSIDE—THEY'RE OFTEN HIDDEN
IN THE HEART.**

1

IDOLS AREN'T ALWAYS ON THE OUTSIDE—THEY'RE OFTEN HIDDEN IN THE HEART.

2

IDOLS BLOCK US FROM HEARING GOD CLEARLY.

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IDOLS AREN'T ALWAYS ON THE OUTSIDE—THEY'RE OFTEN HIDDEN IN THE HEART.

2

IDOLS BLOCK US FROM HEARING GOD CLEARLY.

3

GOD WANTS TO CLEANSE OUR HEARTS AND BRING US BACK TO HIM.

TAKEAWAYS

You can't follow Jesus fully with a divided heart.

You can't have revival until you tear down the idol.

Give him the spaces you've been unwilling to surrender.

Clean house. Let God have it all.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

 **What stood out to you most from the message tonight or last week on idols?**

- Was there a moment, verse, or example that hit home?

 **How would you define an idol in your own words?**

- Is it something you've ever thought about in your own life before?

 **What are some modern-day idols that we often struggle with today?**

- Why do you think those things have so much pull?

 **Have you ever noticed something slowly taking more of your time, attention, or love than God?**

- What was it? What did it take for you to realize it?

 **Why do you think it's so easy to drift into worshiping something other than God—even when we don't mean to?**

- What's the danger in not recognizing that drift?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

 **In 1 Kings 18, Elijah called the people to stop wavering between two opinions. What was he referring to and what does “wavering” between God and the world look like in our lives today?**

- Where do you feel like you're still wavering in your faith?

 **When it comes to tearing down idols, what's the hardest part—recognizing them, removing them, or replacing them? Why?**

- Which step is the most challenging for you personally?

 **What's one idol you feel like God might be asking you to let go of right now?**

- How can the group pray for you in that?

 **What would it look like for you to “rebuild the altar” in your life and make space for God again?**

- Are there any small habits you could start this week to make Him first again?

 **How can we help each other stay focused on God and not let idols creep back in?**

- What would real accountability or encouragement look like in this group?