

**What is
Idolatry?**

BUILDING BLOCKS

**Little
Children,
Keep
Yourselves
From Idols**

Part 7

At the end of his first letter, the apostle John wrote:

We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. Little children, keep yourselves from idols. (1 John 5:19-21)

In our last Sunday session of this series, what do we need to clearly see and understand?

- ☆ **"We _____."** John uses the word *know* 28 times in this little letter. He wrote his gospel (John 20:30-31) and this letter (1 John 5:13) to help us get to know Jesus and confidently trust in him.
- ☆ **"The _____ God."** Jesus has come and given us understanding "so that we may know him who is true." Idols are nothing. Idols have to be made. Idols "take," but give no blessing in return. The true God is different.
- ☆ **"We are _____ God."** This true God is our Creator and Sustainer. He wants us a relationship with us as our Father in heaven.
- ☆ **"The whole world lies in the power of the _____ one."** Temptation is real and dangerous.
- ☆ **"Little children, keep yourselves _____ idols."** You and I will make choices. Who will come first in our lives?



For Class & Family Discussion:

- Can you find a few of the times John uses *know* in his first letter? Here's a few you should definitely not miss:
 - 1 John 2:1-5 - what can we **know**?
 - 1 John 3:1-5 - what can we **know**?
 - 1 John 3:16 - what can we **know**?
- Why is John, a man who lived so long ago, worth listening to and trusting? 1 John 1:1-4 might be helpful here...
- In what way does "the whole world lie in the power of" or "under the sway of" the evil one?
- "He is the true God and eternal life" (1 John 5:20). Think about that last phrase. In contrast to idols, how is the true God "eternal life"?
- Finally, what does it mean to "keep" myself "from" something? How does that work? Why do you think John ends his letter with those words?