

New City Catechism: Question 17

Question: What is idolatry?

Answer: Idolatry is trusting in created things rather than the Creator for our hope and happiness, significance and security.

Romans 1:21 and 25

For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. . . . They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator. . . .

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- I. What are common idols of our American Culture? What are common idols of our Evangelical Christian sub-culture?
- II. How do we train ourselves to reflexively turn to God for our refuge instead of any of the answers from the previous question?
- III. Poison is determined by the dosage. Small amounts of a good thing can turn our worship to God but too much of the same things (food, wealth, family, even church) can find us replacing God and making an idol. Is there any good thing in your life that is reaching a dangerous level of dosage creeping towards idolatry?
- IV. What scriptures passages speak to the fight against idolatry in the lives of Christians?

