



CHISAGO LAKES
BAPTIST CHURCH

January 24, 2010

Idols Of The Heart
Why You Do What You Do
James 4:1-6

You must turn from the idols of your heart.

Conflicts Are Caused By Our Wants (4:1-6)

We Want What We Want So Much That We
_____ (4:1).

So why do you need to turn from the idols of your heart? Because ultimately they're _____!

We Want What We Want So Much That We
_____ (4:2)

So how can I tell when a good desire has gone bad?

- Will I Sin _____? (4:2a).
- Will I Sin Because _____? (4:2b)

So why do you need to turn from the idols of your heart? Because ultimately they lead you to _____!

We Want What We Want So Much That We Become
_____ (4:3-4)

There are two radical states we will find ourselves in.

- We Will _____ To Get It (4:3)
- We _____ God's Purposes (4:4)

So why do you need to turn from the idols of your heart? Because ultimately they _____!

We Want What We Want So Much That God Must
_____ Us (4:5-6).

Two reasons.

- We _____ The Ministry Of The Holy Spirit (4:5)
- We Are _____ (4:6)

So why do you need to turn from the idols of your heart? Because ultimately they make us _____ of God!

Application Helps* :

Remember the last time you were worried, angry, frustrated, discouraged, or feeling sorry for yourself? Ask and answer these questions about that situation.

1. What Was My Situation?
2. How Did I Respond?
3. What Did I Want?
4. What Does God's Word Say About My Situation?
5. What Should I Have Wanted?
6. What Should I Do Now?

The next time you're struggling spiritually, whether in a relationship, thought life, or habitual activity, ask and answer this series of questions. If you do this for 10 different incidents, you'll begin to see some of the normal idols that you serve.

Read 2 Samuel 13:1-19 and answer the following questions.

1. How would you describe Amnon's feelings/emotions in verses 2 & 4?
2. Why was Amnon feeling that way?
3. Why would Amnon go along with Jonadab's scheme?
4. How do we know that Tamar was an idol of Amnon's heart?
5. Remember we found the two criteria for determining when a legitimate desire becomes sinful in James 4:2. What were those criteria?
6. What was Amnon's heart's desire?

7. How did he behave when he didn't get it?
8. How did he sin to get it? You can list multiple sins here.

Want more work? You could go through the same questions dealing with Absalom's response to his sister's forcible violation (1 Sam. 13:20-39) or Ahab and Naboth (1 Kings 21:1-16).