

Let's start today with the story of Josiah. We read the scripture about most of this in the message, but it can be hard to follow. So let's watch a video so we can visualize what happened with Josiah.

[God's Story: Josiah](#)

What is Josiah known for? (tearing down idols and trying to turn Israel back to God)

#TargetPractice: What are idols? (anything that you value more than God)

How do you show that something or someone has great value? (willing to spend a lot of time/money/energy/thought on it)

What were the idols in Josiah's time like? (usually a statue, offered sacrifices to it...evil practices, prayed to it...)

Do we have idols like that today? (not necessarily a statue we bow to, but we can have idols)

)Illustration: need a cup with a heart taped or drawn on it, a pitcher of water, small rocks, and a tray with edges to sit the cup on.)

Let's look at what the problem is about having idols. Imagine that this cup is our heart. The water represents God.

(Pour water to the top of the cup as talking) When we spend time reading God's Word, praying, or worshipping, we fill our hearts up with God.

But if we begin to spend more time doing other things that take us away from time with God, they begin to be more important to us than He is. Remember what we value is what we spend time/money/energy/thought on.

(Hold up small rocks.) These are going to represent things that we can value more than God. In other words, they become idols.

What are some idols we could have? *(Drop a rock in for each one said)* (can use some of the things listed in the beginning of the lesson...popularity, best grades, forms of entertainment, how you look, sports, success/money, getting whatever you want even at the expense of others...)

What is the problem with having idols? (it pushes God out of our heart)

Now is there anything wrong with most of those things we enjoy? Not always...as long as they are not things that go against God's Word. The problem is when we value those things so much they push God out of our hearts.

We just have to be careful that the things we enjoy don't become everything to us so that we neglect our relationship with God and stop listening for His guidance.