

THE WORLD IS NOT GOD'S FRIEND

Family Devotion – Lesson 37

MEMORY VERSE—1 CORINTHIANS 10:7

“Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.”

- We are told not to be like the Israelites who were idolaters. An idolater is someone who puts something before God or in the place of God, and usually expresses worship toward the idol. When Moses went up Mt. Sinai to receive the law from God, the Israelites commanded Aaron to make gods to go before them. Aaron fashioned a graven calf with their golden jewelry. This was supposed to represent their God. As Moses was receiving the law, the Israelites were already breaking it!
- There are three areas in life that we need to be aware of and careful with. The world has promoted these three things so much that they have become idols for many—especially in America.

1) EATING

- It is not a sin to eat food and enjoy it. It is a sin to overindulge with excessive greed—GLUTTONY.
- The sin of gluttony is idolatry. It is a choice to self-love, comfort, and control through food.
- (Phil. 3:19; Deut. 21:20; Prov. 23:19-20, 25:16)
- When food becomes a replacement for God, it becomes an idol.

2) DRINKING

- Drinking goes along with eating. It is not a sin, but it can easily turn into gluttony if not careful.
- Many have become addicted to an ingredient in drinks called CAFFEINE. Be careful!
- The world has a certain beverage that has destroyed many—ALCOHOL!
- The Devil loves to use alcohol to get people to sin. It is one of his greatest tools to arouse the flesh and pervert judgment. Stay away from it and don't ever try it! Alcohol has become one of America's biggest addictive idols. The consequences can be deadly (Is. 5:22).

3) PLAYING

- Having a good time is not a sin. Too much free time to play may easily lead to sin.
- Be careful with your time (Ecc.10:18; Ez. 16:49-50).
- It has been said, “Idol hands are the Devil's workshop.”
- The world puts an emphasis on playing through entertainment, sports, social events, etc.
- A good consistent work ethic can save you from a lot of problems.



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS

- How did the Devil use eating to bring sin into the world?
- Can you think of some other things the world has corrupted into a sinful idol that was originally a good thing?



PRAYER TIME

- Pray for God to open your eyes to any idols you may not know about in your life.
- Ask God to help you always keep Him first in everything you do.



CHALLENGE

- The next time you have free time to play, pray and ask God to bless the time.