



Move Past the Label

Part 3: A Faith that puts God Second

February 1, 2026

Message Summary

A faith that puts God second reflects a divided heart, where God is first in your words but not in your life. The Bible calls this “idolatry,” and it means putting anything before God.

Three Questions to Identify Idols

1. Does this lead me closer to God or distract me from God?
2. Do I rely on this more than God for my comfort, my identity, or my worth?
3. If God asked me to give this up, would I give it up without hesitation?

Key Scripture

“Do not worship any other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.” Exodus 34:14 NIV

Additional Scriptures

- Exodus 20:3 NIV
- 1 John 5:21 NIV
- Exodus 20:5 NIV
- Deuteronomy 4:24 NIV
- 2 Corinthians 11:2 NIV
- Psalm 16:4 NIV

Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Talk about ways you practiced full obedience and surrender this past week. Will this make sense before the message?

Start Thinking. Ask questions to get your group thinking.

- What are your top five priorities in life right now?
- Read **Exodus 34:14**. As you read about God being jealous, what thoughts or feelings come up? How is His jealousy different than human jealousy?

Start Sharing. Choose questions that create openness.

- Share about your early faith experiences. How did you prioritize God when you first started following Jesus, and how has that changed over time?
- Is there an area of your life that's taking priority over God? How could you make God more of a priority, and how might your life look different as a result?

Start Praying. Be bold, and pray specifically.

Father, thank You for being jealous for us. It can be tempting to put things of this world above You, and we don't want to do that. Please show us where we need to remove idols and replace them with more of You. Soften our hearts to hear Your voice as You lead us this week. In Jesus' name, amen.

Start Doing. Commit to a step, and live it out this week.

- If you've identified an idol that you need to remove, focus on replacing it with more of God this week. Share how it's going with your Connect Group throughout the week or the next time you meet.

- Consider how you could love others by serving on the weekend or with a Local Mission Partner.