

# BOOK OF ACTS // WEEK 29

## *JESUS IS GREATER THAN IDOLS*

Jason Brinker - 04/21/24

### GROWING TOGETHER

Try this Ice-breaker game for some laughs and insight: Would You Rather...

- Would you rather...be able to speak every language fluently or speak to animals?
- Would you rather...never be cold again or never feel hungry again?
- Would you rather...be able to rewind time by one hour each day or fast forward time by one hour each day?

and/or

- Introduce yourself (silently) by acting out one or two of your favorite ways to spend your free time. Have fun with this and don't pick things that are easily identifiable like watching t.v., reading a book, or eating.

### GROWING WITH GOD

Read [Acts 19:8-11](#), [18-20](#), [23-41](#), & [Jeremiah 2:13](#) aloud and go over your sermon notes with one another. (Answer all or some of the questions)

Acts 19:18-20 tells us how many of the new Believers began to see the emptiness and the error of their ways. So much so, they burned their books of magic arts. They gave themselves no way to return to the things they once elevated and made their ultimate "god".

- **Have you ever had an idol overpromise but underdeliver?**
- **What have you ever walked away from that you made your ultimate god?**
- **If you haven't walked away from it, can you share why?**
- **Did it resonate with you when Pastor Jason said, "Good things that become the ultimate things become destructive things?"**

Pastor Jason told us, "This world and your sin nature has convinced you that you can find ultimate happiness in ( fill in the blank ) and not in Christ."

- **Cite some examples of how we fill in the blank and how those things subtly lure us into becoming an idol for us.**
- **Have you ever been told by someone close to you, "That thing that you don't think was or is an idol actually is?" Maybe they didn't use the word "idol" but having a better understanding of what an idol is, you now see what they meant or mean.**

Acts 19:25-28 tells us how a man named Demetrius gathered all the craftsmen and workmen of similar trades (possibly compared to a modern worker's union) and began to speak ill of Paul. Demetrius was rallying them to band together and reject Paul's teaching's because the prosperity their businesses created was being heavily affected by Paul's teachings. In other words, they were justifying their work of idolatry for the sake of wealth generation.

- **Share a personal experience where you've witnessed someone passionately defend their idol or belief.**
- **How did this experience shape your understanding of the power of idols in people's lives?**
- **When you spoke to them, did you notice any similarities in their response with the way you responded when confronted with your own pursuit of idolatry?**

# GROWING IN OBEDIENCE & SCRIPTURE

## Personal Reflection and Examination:

1. Spend time in personal reflection this week, identifying any idols or “ultimate things” that may be competing for your devotion to God. - [Jeremiah 2:13](#)
2. Engage in honest conversations with fellow group members about the challenges and struggles you face in prioritizing God above all else. - [1 Corinthians 10:14](#)

## Practical Steps and Application:

1. Take practical steps to redirect your focus and allegiance towards God, seeking His satisfaction and fulfillment above the temporary promises of idols. - [Matthew 6:33](#)

## Community Support and Accountability:

1. Pastor Jason encouraged us to take time this week and read through the book of Hosea which illustrated for us how God will always bring His people back to Himself. Encourage one another to pursue a deeper understanding of God’s love and forgiveness, knowing that He is always ready to welcome us back into His embrace. - [Hosea 11:8](#)
2. Commit to supporting and holding one another accountable in the journey towards true worship and devotion to God, recognizing that we are stronger together in our pursuit of Him. - [Ephesians 4:2-3](#)

## Here are insights Pastor Jason gave us to reflect on:

1. An idol is when you take good things and make them ultimate things.
2. People are passionate about their idols.
3. Good things that become ultimate things become destructive things.
4. Only God gives life.
5. Idols demand sacrifice but God sacrificed Himself for you.

# GROWING IN PRAISE AND WORSHIP

This week’s song list if you’d like to worship with your group:

[Take You At Your Word](#)

[Another One](#)

[Nothing Else](#)

# GROWING WITH CATALYST PEOPLE

Be sure to follow Catalyst Church on all the major social media platforms for the latest information and words of encouragement.



