

**What is
Idolatry?**

BUILDING BLOCKS

**When God
Talks About
Idols...**

Part 3

All of us worship someone or something. Someone or something has first place in my heart. If God is my Creator—the one true and living God—I ought to treat his perspective as priceless. And when he talks about idols, he presents three **BIG** problems.

1. Idols are _____. They have (Psa 115:3-8)...

- ❖ _____, but do not speak
- ❖ Eyes, but do not see
- ❖ Ears, but do not _____
- ❖ Noses, but do not smell
- ❖ _____, but do not feel
- ❖ Feet, but do not walk
- ❖ Throats, but do not make a _____



Those who make them become _____ them;
so do all who _____ in them. (115:8)

2. Idols have to be _____.

...he _____ a cypress tree or an oak ... He takes a part of it and warms himself ... also he _____ a god and worships it; he makes it an idol and falls down before it ... He _____ to it and says, "Deliver me, for you are my god!"

He feeds on ashes; a _____ heart has led him astray, and he cannot deliver himself or say, "Is there not a _____ in my right hand?" (Isa 44:12-20)

3. Idols " _____," but give no blessing in return.

"Those who pay regard to vain idols **forsake** their hope of steadfast love." (Jonah 2:8)

For Class & Family Discussion:

- Let's revisit the contrast being drawn by the psalmist in Psalm 115:3-4. What ought we to clearly see?
- Can you think of any "works of human hands" in the 21st century that fit the description of Psalm 115:5-7?
- In what ways do "those who make" and "trust in" idols "become like them" (115:8)?
- What can we learn from God's challenge to "set forth the case" for idols in Isaiah 41:21-29?
- Idols didn't exist before people; they were and are made by people. But idols *do* "allow" people to do anything they want (Exo 32:6; Col 2:23). How might this help to explain the enduring temptation towards idolatry?
- In what ways do "those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love" (Jonah 2:8)?
- What are we really saying when we repeat and live by the words of Psalm 115:1?