

## “An Idol Threat”

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Sunday, September 15, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI

Pastor Jonathan DeCou

*1 Corinthians 10:14-22*

**BIG IDEA:** Authentic Christians do everything they can to avoid idolatry.

*“So then, my dear friends, flee from idolatry.”*

*1 Corinthians 10:14 (CSB)*

**Authentic Christians avoid idolatry because:**

☞ **It is the sensible thing to do.** (v14-15, 19)

☞ **It replaces my devotion to Christ.** (v16-18)

☞ **It invokes the powers of darkness.** (v19-21)

☞ **It provokes the jealousy of God.** (v22)

**BIG IDEA:** Authentic Christians do everything they can to avoid idolatry.

**READ:** 1 Corinthians 10:14-22

**THINK:** Consider the seduction of idolatry, and then ask yourself these questions: *Were you raised in a permissive environment, or in a strict, but forgiving one? Give an example. With your boss (or parents) do you find it easier to get permission ahead of time or to get forgiveness later if it turns out badly? What do eating the*

*bread and drinking the cup mean? How is that “participation” in Christ’s body and blood (See Luke 22:19-20; John 6:53-57)? Why mention eating the OT sacrifices (v18) in this context? How do these two illustrations relate to Paul’s instruction to avoid participating in the feasts at pagan temples (v14, 20)? Why should they flee from these activities (v20; see also 8:10)?*

**DO:** Idolatry can take many forms. What are two “idols” you see that are “worshipped” by people around you? What “idols” are you enticed to worship? When do you find yourself attracted to this idol? How can you guard against that? List two or three things you can do this week in order to express full devotion to God.