

Transformed

From Chasing IT to Living a Life with God

Reflect

- 1) Think about something that used to give you great meaning in life but now no longer does. Why did it lose its meaning or why did the meaning fade?
- 2) Idolatry is worshipping or pursuing something other than God. How would you define idolatry in our culture? In your life?
- 3) In your view, what does idolatry (chasing IT), do to a person's relationship with God?
- 4) Give your definition of what living a life with God means to you.

Read Your Bible:

- Ecclesiastes 1:1-9
- Romans 12:1-2
- Matthew 6:24

Apply God's Word to Your Life

- 1) Read Ecclesiastes. Solomon had it all. Wine, women, power and money. Yet as the King of Israel, the Son of David, he was empty in his search for meaning. Do you ever feel like Solomon? Why or why not?
- 2) Why do you think the search for meaning in the things of this world (chasing IT), falls short of our expectations?
- 3) Jesus said, "You can't worship two gods at once, you'll love one and hate the other." Give some examples of how you have seen or experienced this happening.
- 4) Romans points out that transformation, (not conforming to the world), is crucial for our life with God. In your experience how does that happen?
- 5) Based on where you are at in your faith journey, what does living a life with God look like to you?
- 6) Thinking about your answer to question five, what are some steps you can take to move from chasing IT to living a life with God?

"You shall have no other gods before me." This is the first commandment and it is number one for a reason. One of the greatest challenges we have in our relationship with God is focus. Too often we focus on the wrong things, looking for meaning and a greater purpose in our lives. We focus on money, power, sex and stuff. We chase "IT." Chasing "IT" is idolatry and as Jesus taught, we cannot pursue two gods for we will hate one and love the other. Romans 12 counsels us as followers of Jesus to not be conformed to this world but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. Transformation is a reality of pursuing a life with God. And as we do so, we cannot help but be changed into sons and daughters of God. That is God's promise to YOU!

Pray

Lord God, You know my heart's desire is to find meaning in my life with You. Forgive me when I chase after the idols of this world. Do Your work in my life that moves me from being conformed to this world to being transformed into the image of Your Son. You are my God and I love You, Lord. Do Your work in me and my life, in Jesus' name. Amen.