



November: Truth-Finder

Learning Target: I can recognize idols in my life and choose to focus on the true God.

Romans 12:2 "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing, and perfect will."

We are wise about what pulls our attention and our hearts away from God's story. We humans were created to worship God. If we don't worship God, we worship something else. Romans 1:25 describes how the Romans had "exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served created things rather than the Creator." Any area of study is never neutral. It always has values attached to it. Learning about and discerning these values tell us about those who produce them, what they think is important, and what they believe is true. It tells us about the values of cultures, times, and belief systems.

We must understand that worldviews affect what people believe, say and do. Therefore, we need to learn to "read" a worldview. We need to ask questions about what is being portrayed in regard to culture, values, and belief systems. We need to identify and understand the idols and lies of our time (and times past). Modern idolatry is a matter of the heart. Idolatry extends beyond the worship of idols and images and false gods. Our modern idols are many and varied. Even for those who do not bow physically before a statue, idolatry is a matter of the heart—pride, self-centeredness, greed, gluttony, a love for possessions and ultimately rebellion against God. Is it any wonder that God hates it?

Verses to Read: ☐ Deuteronomy 5:7-8 ☐ 1 Kings 3:9 ☐ Psalm 119:26-32; Psalm 130:1-4 ☐ Proverbs 14:6 ☐ 1 Corinthians 10:14 ☐ Ephesians 4:14 ☐ Hebrews 12:1 ☐ 1 Thessalonians 5:19-24 ☐ 1 John 5:21

Questions to talk about as a family: ● How do you spend your time? ● Are there objects/attitudes that are pulling our attention and hearts away from God's story? ● What changes can we make? How can we remind ourselves to keep our attention fixed on God?

Family activities that are truth-finding: ● commit to daily Bible reading as a family ● fasting from things that distract ● donate time, talents, and treasures to others ● do a family "audit" to see where priorities are

Online Family Devotionals: ● "Putting God First" by Kurt Bruner ● "What Do You Love?" by Rhett H. Wilson, Sr., Ph.D. ● "Who's Your Master?" by Janine Petry

Parent Resource: You Are What You Love by James K.A. Smith

Information adapted from the Tft Throughlines Devotional, Beacon Christian School in St. Catherines, Ontario and Calgary Christian School in Calgary, Alberta