

**LIFE IN THE WORD**

**SERIES:**

**DRINKING FROM**

**BROKEN CISTERNS**

**SCRIPTURE**

**LESSON:**

**JEREMIAH 2:11-13**

**JEREMIAH 2:11-13, HAS ANY NATION EVER EXCHANGED GODS? (THEIR GODS AREN'T REALLY GODS.) YET, MY PEOPLE HAVE EXCHANGED THEIR GLORY FOR SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T HELP THEM. BE HORRIFIED OVER THIS, HEAVEN. BE TERRIBLY AFRAID," DECLARES THE LORD. "MY PEOPLE HAVE DONE TWO THINGS WRONG. THEY HAVE ABANDONED ME, THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE-GIVING WATER. THEY HAVE ALSO DUG THEIR OWN CISTERNS, BROKEN CISTERNS THAT CAN'T HOLD WATER.**

**JEREMIAH 2:13 (NKJV), FOR MY PEOPLE HAVE  
COMMITTED TWO EVILS: THEY HAVE FORSAKEN ME,  
THE FOUNTAIN OF LIVING WATERS, AND HEWN  
THEMSELVES CISTERNS—BROKEN CISTERNS THAT  
CAN HOLD NO WATER.**

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COMMITTED TWO EVILS: THEY HAVE FORSAKEN ME,  
THE FOUNTAIN OF LIVING WATERS, AND HEWN  
THEMSELVES CISTERNS—BROKEN CISTERNS THAT  
CAN HOLD NO WATER.**

**JEREMIAH - A PROPHET CALLED BY GOD TO DELIVER  
HIS MESSAGES TO THE PEOPLE OF JUDAH**

**ISRAEL - ARE THE CHOSEN NATION WHO HAVE  
TURNED AWAY FROM HIM**

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**THE FOUNTAIN OF  
LIVING WATER - GOD HIMSELF.**

**BROKEN CISTERNS  
SYMBOLIC OF THE FALSE GODS.**

**THE LAND OF JUDAH - THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM OF  
ISRAEL.**

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THE FOUNTAIN OF LIVING WATERS, AND HEWN  
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CAN HOLD NO WATER.**

**LESSON ONE:  
SUBSTITUTING GOD FOR IDOLS**

# **THREE FORMS OF IDOLATRY:**

**1. WALLET**

**2. WARFARE**

**3. WORSHIP**

**IDOLATRY IS NOT JUST WRONG, IT'S TRAGICALLY  
FOOLISH, EXCHANGING A LIMITLESS SOURCE OF  
LIFE FOR EMPTY SUBSTITUTES.**

**HOW CAN WE AVOID  
FALLING INTO IDOLATRY?**

**PRIORITIZE YOUR RELATIONSHIP  
WITH GOD ABOVE ALL ELSE.**

**JOSHUA 22:5, BUT BE VERY CAREFUL TO OBSERVE  
THE COMMANDMENT AND THE LAW THAT MOSES THE  
SERVANT OF THE LORD GAVE YOU: TO LOVE THE  
LORD YOUR GOD, TO WALK IN ALL HIS WAYS, TO  
KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, TO HOLD FAST TO HIM,  
AND TO SERVE HIM WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND  
WITH ALL YOUR SOUL.**

**MATTHEW 22:37, JESUS SAID TO HIM, YOU  
SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL  
YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND  
WITH ALL YOUR MIND.**

## **2. STUDY GOD'S WORD**

**2 TIMOTHY 2:15, STUDY (BE EARNEST OR DILIGENT)  
TO SHEW THYSELF APPROVED UNTO GOD, A  
WORKMAN THAT NEEDED NOT TO BE ASHAMED,  
RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH.**

**ACTS 17:11, NOW THE BEREANS WERE MORE NOBLE-MINDED THAN THE THESSALONIANS, FOR THEY RECEIVED THE MESSAGE WITH GREAT EAGERNESS AND EXAMINED THE SCRIPTURES EVERY DAY TO SEE IF THESE TEACHINGS WERE TRUE.**

**HOW OFTEN DO YOU  
EXAMINE THE SCRIPTURES?**

## **3. STAY ACCOUNTABLE**

**PROVERBS 27:17, AS IRON SHARPENS IRON, SO ONE  
PERSON SHARPENS ANOTHER.**

## **4. FOCUS ON CHRIST**

**COLOSSIANS 3:2, SET YOUR MINDS ON THINGS  
ABOVE, NOT EARTHLY THINGS.**

**"IDOLATRY HAPPENS WHEN WE TAKE GOOD THINGS  
AND MAKE THEM ULTIMATE THINGS."**

**"HE WHO OFFERS GOD A SECOND PLACE OFFERS  
HIM NO PLACE."**

## **FOLLOW UP CHAT QUESTIONS:**

- 1. WHAT IS YOUR DEFINITION OF IDOLATRY?**
- 2. WHAT WERE THE TWO EVILS ISRAEL COMMITTED?**
- 3. WHAT WERE ISRAEL'S THREE FORMS (W'S) OF IDOL WORSHIP?**
- 4. WHAT IS A BROKEN CISTERN?**
- 5. WHAT DOES A BROKEN CISTERN SYMBOLIZE?**
- 6. HOW CAN WE AVOID FALLING INTO IDOLATRY?**
- 7. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO EXAMINE THE SCRIPTURES?**