

SMASHING OUR *American Idols*

2. “Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of *Happiness* Holiness”

The Vineyard Church of Conroe

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Sermon Notes

**Our American Idols are PEOPLE, POSITIONS, POSSESSIONS, OR PLEASURES THAT WE PURSUE IN PLACE OF GOD
And ALL IDOLS MUST BE SMASHED**

Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another.²⁵ They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator— Romans 1:24-25

God Calls us to PURSUE HIM MORE THAN OUR HAPPINESS

& TRUST HIM WITH OUR HOPES, DREAMS, AND PROMISES

I. Genesis 12:1-5

¹ The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.” ² “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” ⁴ So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. ⁵ He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

God Calls us to Pursue Him OVER OUR CULTURE, COMFORT AND SAFETY

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. Hebrews 11:8

II. Genesis 15:1-6

After this, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward.”¹ But Abram said, “Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?”² And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”³ Then the word of the Lord came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.”⁴ He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”⁵ Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

God Calls us to Pursue Him IN SPITE OF OUR PRESENT

CIRCUMSTANCES, PAST FAILURES AND FUTURE FEARS

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10

III. Genesis 22:1-5

¹ Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied. ² Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”³ Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵ He said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.”

God Calls us to Pursue Him OBEDIENTLY BEYOND THE **PROMISES HE HAS GIVEN US**

Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. ²³ And the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,” and he was called God’s friend. ²⁴ You see that a person is considered righteous by what

they do and not by faith alone. James 2:21-24