

# SOURCE IDOLS (The Root)

Specific idol	Description - Life only has meaning / I only have worth if:	What we seek:	Failure to Believe:	Price we are willing to pay:	Greatest fear:	Others often feel:	Problem emotion:	Using the example of money:
<b>Comfort idolatry</b>	I have this kind of pleasure experience, a particular quality of life	Comfort (privacy, lack of stress, freedom, pleasure)	God is Good, so I don't have to look elsewhere for satisfaction & Joy	reduced productivity	stress, demands	hurt	boredom	Earn and spend money in an attempt to insulate themselves from the needs of others and from the demands of daily life. Avoid boredom at all costs - continually purchasing new gadgets and toys and investing deeply in their hobbies and other distractions from day to day life. Worshipers of comfort see other people, even those closest to them, as potential obstacles to their comfort. Not surprisingly, authentic relationships do not come easily and as a result are only invested in if they provide an adequate layer of insulation from hassle
<b>Approval idolatry</b>	I am loved and respected by _____	Approval (affirmation, love, relationship)	God is Gracious, so I don't have to look elsewhere for acceptance & approval	less independence	rejection	smothered	cowardice	The desire to be loved is healthy and natural, but the problem here however is that they are not ultimately satisfied with God's love for them and seek love and affirmation from those they deem important. Worshipers of approval will do anything to make a loved one happy, including excessive spending in an attempt to literally buy acceptance of others. They may also use their earning potential as a way to make someone important proud of their accomplishments. Often overcommit, over-promise, and overstate in order to gain affirmation from others. Radically insecure in their identity in Christ and fear rejection of people above a biblical fear of God's hatred of sin. This leads to worry about what others think of them. Often those closest to someone with an approval idol feel smothered by the neediness of the idolater, whose desire to be loved cannot realistically be met by a mere human being.
<b>Control idolatry</b>	I am able to get mastery over my life in the area of _____	Control (self-discipline, certainty, standards)	God is Great, so I don't have to look elsewhere for salvation & security	loneliness, spontaneity	uncertainty	condemned	worry	Often obsessed with making things go exactly as they planned and often pay for it through deep-seated anxiety and worry. The mantra of a true control worshipper is 'If I want it done right, I have to do it myself.' In regards to money, people with a control idol know where every penny goes, and they often self-righteously look down their nose at those who appear less in control of their finances. Wealthy or poor, the control idol bring worry. "Will I make enough?" or "Am I saving enough?" are common questions. The marks of control idolatry most obviously surface when change or unexpected events, like economic recessions, threaten to ruin their plans.
<b>Power idolatry</b>	I have power and influence over others	Power (success, winning, influence)	God is Glorious, so I don't have to look elsewhere for significance & purpose	being burdened, responsibility	humiliation	used	anger	Gains identity in competition - the fiercer the challenge the better. There is nothing wrong with competition; it can be very helpful. But remember that all idol worship is taking something good that God has given as a gift and making it an ultimate source of identity. In this case, that good thing is challenge or competition; more accurately it is victory. Another way to describe power worshippers is to say that their primary motivation in life is not so much to win as it is to avoid losing. In regard to money, the person with a power idol is driven to earn more and is determined to spend more than anyone else. Such persons may develop an addiction to gambling, enjoying the built-in challenge of the game of chance. All is well with power worshippers as long as they are winning. But losing exposes their deep insecurity. Losing brings anger, often accompanied with verbal or even physical abuse. Losing can bring hatred of self or disdain for those who 'cost' them the victory. Those close to a person with a power idol often feel used, undervalued, and exhausted from the up-and-down cycle of winning and losing.



## ADDICTIONS (The Fruit)

Common Addictions	
Alcohol	News
Drugs / Pills	Body Image
Productivity	Politics
Gambling	Fitness
Sexual	Competition
Social Media	Sleep
TV	Nice Things
Games	New
Outdoors / Nature	Books / Reading
Music	Knowledge
Acceptance	Romance
Fashion / Style	Respect
Foods	Children / Grandchildren
Travel	Pets
Gossip	Sports
Attention	Stress
Fame / Status	The Weekend
Lesiure	Hobby
Phone	Work / Career
Being Needed	Adventure
Gossip	Doing Nothing
Spouse / S.O.	Violence
Thrills	Leaving a Legacy
Being Right	Movies
Sympathy	Church / Religion
Family Planning	Perfection
Safety	Health

## SURFACE IDOLS (The Trunk)

Specific idol	Description - Life only has meaning / I only have worth if:
Image idolatry	I have a particular kind of look or body image
Helping idolatry	People are dependent on me and need me
Dependence idolatry	Someone is there to protect me and keep me safe
Independence idolatry	I am completely free from obligations or responsibilities to take care of someone
Work idolatry	I am highly productive and getting a lot done
Achievement idolatry	I am being recognized for my accomplishments, if I am excelling in my career
Materialism idolatry	I have a certain level of wealth, financial freedom, and nice possessions
Religion idolatry	I am adhering to my religion's moral codes and am accomplished in its activities
Individual Person idolatry	This one person is in my life and happy there and/or happy with me
Irreligion idolatry	I feel totally independent of organized religion and have a self-made morality
Racial / Cultural idolatry	My race and culture is ascendant and recognized as superior
Inner-Ring idolatry	I am allowed to be part of a particular social grouping or professional grouping or other group
Family idolatry	My children and/or my parents are happy and happy with me
Relationship idolatry	Mr. or Mrs. right is in love with me
Suffering idolatry	Hurting and in a problem; only then do I feel noble or worthy of love and am able to deal with guilt
Ideology idolatry	My political or social cause or party is making progress an ascending in influence or power