

**Growth Group Discussion Questions**  
**Series: “Watch Out For Lesser Gods”- Part 1”**  
**“Untamed Passion Will Derail Your Life”**  
**Week of February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

**Message Summary:** We’re onto a new series of messages titled: **“Watch Out For Lesser gods.”** Notice the “small g” for lesser gods. We’re looking at three guys, (Solomon this week), who were people with privilege, power, position and opportunity to do great things for God. In fact, each was a king of Israel! Yet, along the way... “a lesser god” somehow snuck in the tent and grabbed hold of their hearts. It affected their thinking, their actions, their lives, their destinies and the entire nation they were leading in a very destructive way.

But, that was never their intention! For Solomon, a **lesser god** took over his heart, and caused him to detour from leading as God had directed. As a result, the nation was split and his family was put on the road to destruction. Of course, we don’t want lesser gods to lead us into a ditch in our lives. How do we avoid the devious attraction & destruction these lesser gods can bring? That’s our aim.

### **ICE BREAKERS**

1. Ask each group member to name two people, past or present, he or she admires. Why?

### **GOING DEEPER**

1. We talked about watching out for lesser gods in our message. What are some lesser gods that Christians struggle with today?

2. Speaking of sin, reality is: Christians still sin after conversion to Jesus. Read the following passages and discuss the question below:

**James 1:14 Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. 15 These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.**

a. Where do our sin opportunities come from? Is being tempted a sin?

Look at the following passage:

**1 Corinthians 10:13 The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.**

b. What is God’s promise and provision for every temptation you face? What is your responsibility when it comes to dealing with temptation?

3. Discuss what it means for us to have a heart after God? How does your love for God grow bigger and what are indications that you are on the right track?

4. We talked about the importance of guarding our hearts against lesser gods getting a foothold in our lives. What are the “portals” to the heart that we need to guard?

a. How do we guard our hearts?

5. Discuss why sexual sin not is just a mistake that you can fix.

6. Read Psalm 66:18 below. And answer the questions that follow.

**Psalm 66:18 The Lord will not hear me if I hold on to sin in my heart.**

a. What does co-existing with sin in your life do to your relationship with God?

b. What does it do to your own heart? How about your prayers?

7. Sometimes, we violate God’s instructions or teaching and we rack it up to a mistake. It’s pretty easy to fix a mistake, but sometimes, disobeying God is often done with our eyes wide open. Read the following passage and answer the questions below:

**1 John 1:8 If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. 9 But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.**

a. Discuss what “confessing your sin” does for your relationship with God. How do you go about doing it?

8. Read the following verse and answer the question below:

**A psalm of David.**

**Psa.32:1 Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight! 2 Yes, what joy for those whose record the Lord has cleared of guilt, whose lives are lived in complete honesty! 3 When I refused to confess my sin, my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long. 4 Day and night your hand of discipline was heavy on me. My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat. 5 Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, “I will confess my rebellion to the Lord.” And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone.**

b. What we are talking about here is defiance. God deals with our errors of judgment or forgetfulness easily but defiance, like Solomon’s disobedience, needs to be confession & repentance. What do we learn from David’s confession experience above? What happened to David’s guilt that he was carrying?