

**A Faith That Puts God Second  
“Christian-ish” – Part 3  
August 17, 2025**

**What should come first in your life?  
God should come first in your life!**

**Matthew 6:33 (NIV)** *“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”*

**Mark 12:30 (NIV)** *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”*

**We often say that God is first, but  
our actions say something very different.**

**A faith that puts God second reflects a divided heart  
where God is first in your words, but not in your life.**

**Anything we put ahead of God is called “idolatry”.**

**Exodus 20:3 (NIV)** *“You shall have no other gods before Me.”*

**1 John 5:21 (NIV)** *“Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.”*

**Idolatry isn't just bowing to golden statues;  
Idolatry is putting something before God.  
God is a jealous God.**

**Exodus 34:14 (NIV)** *“Do not worship any other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.”*

**Exodus 20:5-6 (NIV)** *“You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, <sup>6</sup> but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments.”*

**Deuteronomy 4:24 (NIV)** *“For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.”*

**“qanna” - God's righteous consuming covenant-keeping jealousy that relentlessly pursues and protects His relationship with people.**

**2 Corinthians 11:2 (NIV)** *“I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to Him.”*

**Psalms 16:4a (NIV)** *“Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more.”*

**Psalms 16:4a (NLT)** *“Troubles multiply for those who chase after other gods.”*

**Even good things become idols when they take God's place in your heart.**

**How Do You Know If Something Is An Idol?**

- Does this lead me closer to God or distract me from God?
- Do I rely on this thing more than God for my comfort, my identity, or my worth?
- If God asked me to give this up, would I give it up without hesitation?

**What you resist the hardest often reveals what controls you the most.**

**You don't just remove the idol; you replace it.**

**Psalms 34:8 (NIV)** *“Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him.”*

**Matthew 6:33 (NIV)** *“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”*

**F – Finances**

**I – Interests**

**R – Relationships**

**S – Schedule**

**T – Troubles**

**Psalms 37:4 (NIV)** *“Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart.”*