



LESSON 7: The plot thickens Esther 3:1-6

Teacher: Beth Seifert

©Copyright Naomi's Table 2014

Read Exodus 20:3-6. Who is to be our God?

Is it okay to worship other things along with worshiping Him?

Look at verse four. What types of things could we potentially worship?

What are we not to do for these things?

What does it mean to “serve” something?

What does it mean to worship something?

Read 1 Samuel 15:22-23. What is it that the Lord delights in?

What does Samuel the prophet liken idolatry to?

Why is that relationship suggested?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:12-13. What have we not received?

What would that try to influence us to do?

Read Romans 12:1-2. What are we not to be conformed to?

What part of us is to be transformed?

For what purpose?

Read 1 Corinthians 5:1-2. What were the Corinthians giving approval to in their midst?

How heinous was this sexual immorality?

By not addressing this sin issue, the Corinthians were implying that this was okay. Is there a sin issue that you are tolerating in yourself or someone close to you that gives the implication that you approve of that sin?

What does Paul say, in verse 2 our response to sin among the body of Christ ought to be? (Notice there is an emotional response here that isn't one of condemnation or self-righteousness.)

As you spend time in prayer and in God's word today, ask yourself if you are living as one who has been transformed, by the renewing of your mind...or if you are still being directed by the spirit of this age and the agenda of culture, or relationships, or media, or something else. Ask God to reveal to you what idols you have in your life; what things you "worship" that come before God. You may not bow down to it, but if it is something that takes you away from your time in His word and in prayer, you need to seek God to discern whether that activity or thing is an idol in your life. Remember, even when Jesus spoke to Mary and Martha He told Martha that Mary had chosen "What is better".

Even good things can become idols when our priorities are imbalanced. Check your priorities today and consider whether there is something you need to be letting go of to draw closer to God.