

Gospel Renewal Stories - Breakout groups - session 6

1. Share your name - we will learn more about each other through this exercise
2. Slide #2 has the comparison of the True God and false gods
3. Slide #3 has the framework for Gospel Renewal Stories.
4. Slide #4 has the Time and Money scenario example
5. Slide #5 has prompts to think through your own personal examples together, or continue with Sharon and Dave, or Alex and Brian - **You do not need to type up the personal examples given tonight, they will not be shared with large group**

God	False gods - A false god (or idol) is anything we believe we need apart from Jesus to make us happy, satisfied or fulfilled.	Gospel	False gospels - any actions or rules we have to do to please a false god to get desired outcomes	Salvation	False salvations - any desired result, possession or situation that will happen when a false god is obeyed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One True God • Loves me • Can save me 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A created thing • Doesn't love me • Can't save me 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus Lived for me • Jesus Died for me • I don't have to do anything 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I must perform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God Himself is my "Precious" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Things are my precious • Satisfaction is partial, not lasting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What am I trusting in besides God? • • 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are my false gods asking me to do? • • 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do I hope to gain from doing what my false gospel says? • • But what do I actually get? 	

Gospel Renewal Stories

A Gospel Renewal Story happens when one or more followers of Jesus sees the *wisdom of the Gospel* applied to the gods, gospels and salvations they are believing. In any situation, they prayerfully “think through” the Gospel like this:

Evaluate

Meet with God using Ps 139:23-24: “Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!”

Confess

As the Lord shows you a false god, its false gospel, and how this is bringing brokenness and death to any situation or relationship.

Repent

Turn from trusting the little “g” god/gospel/salvation and consider that God, His Gospel of grace, and waiting on Him to give blessing in His time, is better.

Believe

Turn to trusting God, His Gospel.

Time and Money in Relationships

Sharon was upset because Dave seemed to make his career a higher priority than his family.

He worked long into the evenings, spent time on the computer when he was at home, and on weekends often went to the office.

When she talks with him about it, he reminds her that they need the extra money right now and he is doing the best he can.

She isn't satisfied, and begins to deeply resent his passion for his work and his lack of devotion to her and their children. She doesn't nag or criticize. She doesn't blow up or throw a fit, and finally one day. She suggests they go out once a month to a nice restaurant, and Dave agrees.

While the dinners are a joy on some level for both of them, Dave feels even more pressure because of the cost of time and money, and Sharon feels she is still not his priority.

Group Prompts

1. **Evaluate:** use false god (idol) indicators (anger/worry/disappointment, fear) to identify false gods/gospels/salvations
2. **Confess:** Name the false gods you are trusting
3. **Repent:** What is at the heart level (not behavior); Why don't I believe God is my provider? What am I believing instead of God and the Gospel? Do side by side comparison with true Gospel. Joyfully, I turn from what I thought I needed to the True God and his provisions.
4. **Believe:** Tell each other what you "get" through Christ (For ex: His finished work, His promises in His time, I am already approved, I am already accepted, I already get way more than what I thought I had to work so hard for, God supplies all my needs, I am already rich, I have the biggest advocate there is (who can be against me?))