

What do we hold on to?

2 Corinthians 6:16

What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God.

INTRODUCTION: Start by asking someone to open in prayer.
Share about any situation where you have been pleasantly surprised this week.

READ 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1 and share any revelations or insights:

- What stood out to you?
- Did anything challenge you?
- Did anything encourage you?

In the message there was a video of dogs leading their owners into trouble. What does being "yoked together" look like in your experience?

What influence would unbelievers have on your life, on our churches life, if we are yoked together?

What would it look like to be yoked to Jesus instead (like Matthew 11:29-30)?

Discuss if this means we should withdraw from unbelievers, why/why not?

Verses 16-19 use images of the temple of the living God. In your own words describe how we are individually, and as a church, the temple of the living God.

How does it influence our lives and faith if we are a temple to the living God?

How would this shape our witness to the world?

Read verse 16 again. Discuss how each of you respond to this verse.

The big idea from this message was "The stuff we hold on to can put us in danger or help us to thrive." Discuss how this idea is drawn from the passage, and why it matters.

What does it mean to thrive as a follower of Jesus?

When we think about idols in our contemporary world they are no longer the objects of traditional religious worship for most of us, rather they are the things that we hold on to, the things we find hardest to surrender to God.

Take time to reflect as a group on what you hold on to. Consider if there are parts of your life that you don't want God to look at, that you want to control or you fear letting go of. These are our idols that come between us and God. Remember that there is no need for shame over these, and that 2 Corinthians 3:17 reminds us that "where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom.

SPEND SOME TIME PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER.

Pray for each other to continue to be reminded to let go of the things that come before God, that they experience freedom and not shame. Pray that each group member take hold of their new life in Jesus, continually letting go of the old. Pray to grow as a temple of the living God.