

MESSAGE REVIEW

Our modern western culture doesn't call us to bow down to a gold idol, but it does call us to bow to an ideology. God designed the world to be without pain, disease, war, and hurt, but whatever God creates, Satan counterfeits. The good news is Jesus defeated him on the cross, and He wants to change each of us, beginning with our hearts. God isn't looking for external conformity to a religion or set of beliefs, but an inward transformation of the heart.

WARM UP QUESTION

What item do you refuse to buy generic?

- **Read <u>Romans 1:18-20</u>**. Why is God angry? How do you think God's anger is different from human anger? In what ways has God revealed truth about Himself to all people? How does this leave people without excuse?
- Read Romans 1:21-23. What has happened to the people who have suppressed the truth that they clearly know about God? Describe a time in your life when you suppressed the truth about God. What idols do you see humanity worshipping today? What idol are you tempted to worship?
- **Read <u>Romans 1:24-32</u>**. How many times do you see the phrase "God abandoned them" in these verses? What does it mean? Why do you think Paul includes such a long list of sins here? What could the use of the words "they" and "their" in verses 28-32 lead the readers of this letter to believe?
- Read Romans 2:1-4. How does Paul make sure no one feels left out in these verses? What does he say the moral judgmentalist is also guilty of? Describe what you think verse 4 means. Have you experienced kindness from God or another Christian that has caused you to want to turn from your sin?
- Read Romans 2:5-11. What do we all do when we refuse to turn from our sin? How many times do you see the definitive word "will" in these verses and what does that tell you? What human being do you know who consistently lives out the lifestyle of verses 7 and 10? (Hint: Look ahead to Romans 3:23 to see the point Paul is building to).

RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

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