

# Preparing Our Hearts

## Students/Parents will be able to:

- Define idol and idolatry
- Identify idols they might have in their own heart
- Create a craft that shows what they are guarding and growing in the garden of their hearts

**Icebreaker Discussion:** In the video, Sis. Marrero showed how a garden is like your heart. There are things you want to grow in your garden such as fruits and vegetables and this relates to the good things we want to grow in our heart such as love, joy, peace, and patience. And there are some things you don't want to grow in your garden like weeds which relates to pride, hate, mean words, and etc.

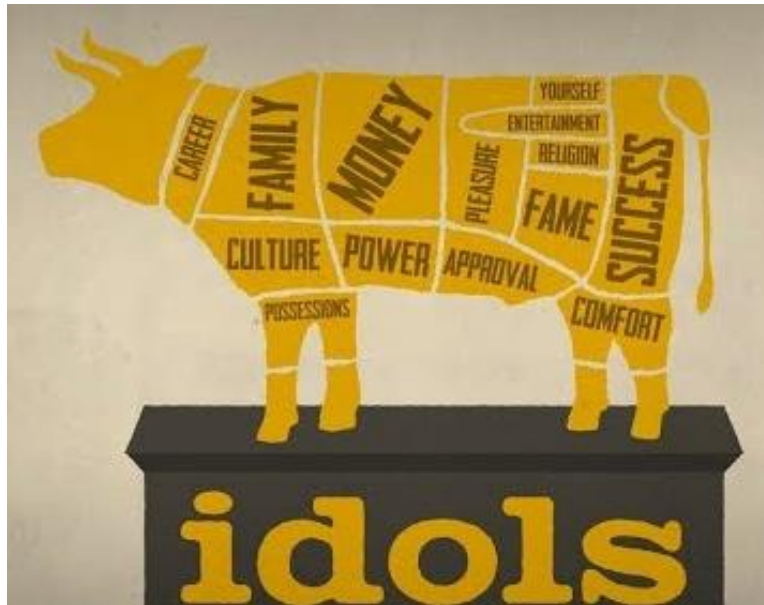
1. What are things you want to grow in the garden of your heart?
2. What are things you want to keep out of the garden of your heart?

In the ice breaker we talked about what we want to grow in our hearts and what we don't want to grow in our hearts. The Psalmist David once said, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." This means we need God to help us clean out our hearts and the Apostle Paul once said, "I die daily." Does this mean you physically die each day and get buried in the ground? No, it means that you don't let your flesh, your will, or your desires, be greater than what God is saying to you. This means we cannot worship anything other than God.

**Idolatry definition:** Ask the following question to your child. What is idolatry? Following answers.

1. Dictionary definition of idol = an image worshipped as a god; a much loved or admired person or thing or movie idol
2. Dictionary definition of idolatry = the worship of a physical object as a god.
3. Idolatry = choosing to consistently find joy in other things or ideas and not God
4. Exodus 20:3-5 King James Version (KJV) <sup>3</sup>Thou shalt have no other gods before me.<sup>4</sup>Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;
5. Having another god other than Jesus means you spend more time trying to make yourself happy with the other god. That means that most of your decisions are based on what you feel and not what God says.

Idolatry is like the root of a giant weed that affects everything we do. For this reason, we need God to help us pull it out from the root. Not everyone has the same idols but here are some common ones. Show the picture to your child. If they can read, let them read the words to you.



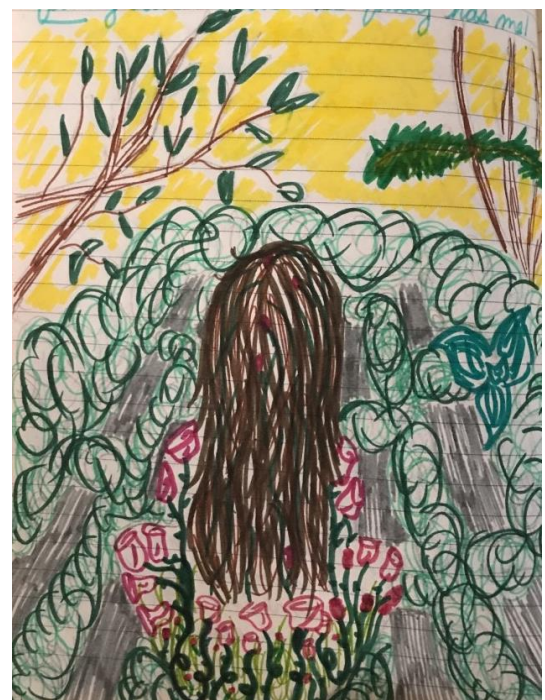
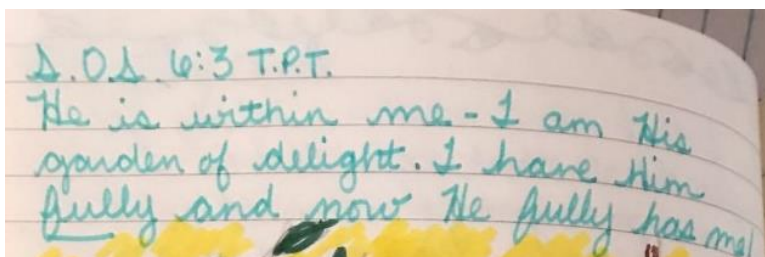
**Parent/Guardian:** Share with your child an idol that God has had to remove from your heart specifically related to fear. Share with them what God has put in the idols place.

**Child:** Share with your parent or guardian something you feel God is saying is more important in your life than He is.

**Parent/Guardian and Child:** Pray together to ask God to truly become your God and remove the idols in your heart. Pray that God love would remove any fear you have of serving Him and giving up your life for what He has for you.

### Final Wrap up

Remember that God wants to be your God. He wants you to be His garden that grows spiritual fruit that will build others up with your words and actions. He has a destiny and purpose for you and if you make Him your greatest passion and pursuit He will do mighty things through you. Read the following scripture and show your child the picture. Song of Solomon 6:3 T.P.T.



## Closing Prayer

### Read Deut. 6: 4-5

<sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:

<sup>5</sup> And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Discuss that this scripture is a scripture that each Christian should base their life on. Discuss how it gives different ways for us to love and serve God: with our heart, soul, and might. Pray that God would truly be your God. That you would serve Him with all of your heart, soul, and might. Pray that God will help show you areas where you are serving something else and that He would break up the follow ground of your heart so that you could serve Him with everything in you. Pray that your child would have a relationship with God and desire to be filled with the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues. That on this Pentecost Sunday they would desire more of Him and the Pentecost experience of repentance, baptism of the Holy Ghost, and water baptism in Jesus name.

### Things to Remember

#### Weekly Challenges:

- Post a video or picture of the garden of their heart; memorize and pray Deut. 6:4-5  
The garden of the heart can be a drawing, painting, sculpture, or even real garden that they make.
- Parent like the Remnant Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/RemnantMinistries-110484610609962/> and post a pic or video of your family creating the garden.

#### Scripture of the Week:

2 Timothy 1:7 New King James Version (NKJV) 7

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

\*\*\* Remember to ask God to help you clean out your heart daily with repentance and allow His joy to wash over you.

### Fun things to do with your Child during the Summer:

Grow a real garden and relate your garden to principles in the Bible
Go on a hike and see what treasures you can find to make a fun craft
Clean the yard together and put the sprinklers on
Use chalk to make fun sidewalk chalk games
Practice <b>intentionally</b> teaching connections to the Bible as you go about your day such as being thankful when things go wrong or waking up with a song in your heart.