



### **Autonomy**

This God is worshipped by doing what I want, or what I think is best for God. A devoted follower of this god demands that life go the way they believe it should, and makes a stink about it when it doesn't.

### **Hedonism**

This god has made its way deep into the life of the church. It is worshipped by thinking life is to maximize my pleasure and to minimize my pain. We worship this god by giving in to pleasure and self-indulgence. If an especially devoted follower's commitment gets too hard, they can just walk away from it.

### **Individualism**

The patron saints of this god are James Bond & Indiana Jones. We worship this god far from the noise and inconvenience of others, and by doing whatever we may see fit. The devoted follower pushes a lawnmower, hits golf balls, or reads the paper on Sunday mornings.

### **Celebrity**

This god has made its way into our churches as big name speakers and writers. We worship this god by worshipping these individuals. The devoted follower accepts these individuals insights as gospel because they are well known and have pretty faces.

### **Ambition**

Closely related to the god of celebrity, this god advocates self-promotion and the pursuit of power veiled in the guise of godly leadership. This god is worship by mowing over others in the pursuit of your dreams. The devoted follower doesn't get caught up serving others because they are too busy serving them self.

### **Compromise and Compartmentalization**

These are the most common gods of all, because they are undemanding of us. You worship these gods by divide up your life between competing demands, then give him what is left over. The devoted follower lives by the principle, "This far and no farther."

## **Committed Leadership**

*Joshua's real concern was spiritual compromise*

- *Every Man's Battle*, by Steve Arterburn

*The problem isn't the Canaanites  
It's the Canaanite gods*

- **The Canaanite gods were many in number.**

- **The Canaanite gods promised results.**

- **The Canaanite gods had specific functions.**

*Do not invoke the names of these gods or swear by them. You must not serve them or bow down to them. But you are to cling to the LORD your God, as you have until now.*

- Joshua 23:7-8

# Community Group Homework

For the week of October 4, 2009

## QUICK REVIEW

Looking back over your sermon notes, was there any particular point or passage of Scripture that most challenged, confused or caught your attention?

- Share it with your group.

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

As a teen, which of the following were you most likely to turn to for advice?

Parents - Minister - Friends - Bible

- Why?

## DIGGING DEEPER

1. Practically speaking, what does it mean for the leaders “to obey all that is written in the book of Moses?” (vs. 6)

2. In verses 12-13, how will Israel show it had turned away from the Lord? What are the terrible results of such disobedience?

3. How would Joshua’s words in 14-16 have helped the leaders understand God better?

Do they help or hinder you? Why?

## TAKING IT HOME

Look over the list of leaders at Grace. Who should your group thank & encourage this week for doing what they do?

- Nursery & Toddler Leaders
- Sunday School Teachers
- Children’s Church Teachers
- Worship Band & Sound Team
- Kitchen Setup & Cleanup
- Sunday Snack Coordinator
- Coffee Cart Workers
- Ushers & Greeters
- Community Groups Leaders
- Weekly Prayer Group
- Building Maintenance
- Church Administrator & Bookkeeper
- Elders & Governing Board

## A list of today’s gods

### The Spirit of the Times

The household god in the liberal part of the church. We worship this god by substituting what the Bible says with what the culture says. The especially devoted followers of this god give their children free reign to do what seems right to them.

### Works righteousness

The household god in the conservative part of the church. This god is worshipped by doing works of righteousness so God will love you because of what you do, how you perform, or how you produce. A devoted follower of this performance-driven god gives no consideration of what was compromised to get results.