

# A WORD ON WORSHIP

## REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM JANUARY 4, 2015

BY PASTOR ANDREW KIKKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at [www.SunriseTC.org](http://www.SunriseTC.org)

### 1 John 5:21

*“Little children, guard yourselves from idols.”*

John throws a final fastball right by us in 1 John 5:21. You stand there flat-footed, thinking, “Where did that come from?” He hasn’t been saying anything about idolatry. He hasn’t mentioned it in the entire book. So, at first glance, it seems out of context. But as you think about it, it sums up his entire message. Idolatry is making up your own god as a substitute for the one true God, who has revealed Himself in Jesus Christ. The false teachers were doing just that. They were offering a false god of speculation, not the one true God of revelation. So John’s final words are a warning against adopting the errors of man-made religion.



We may think that this warning had a special application in Ephesus, where John sent this letter. The Temple of Diana (or Artemis) was there and the silversmiths made a good living making statues of this pagan goddess (Acts 19:23-41). If you travel today in the Far East or in primitive tribal areas, you see many shrines to idols. But Americans, we say to ourselves, do not have a problem with bowing down before statues of imagined gods. But that is not the case. Our idols may not be of stone, gold or precious stones, but we Americans still bow down to them.

In the most basic sense, an idol is anything that takes the rightful place of God in your life. Paul equated covetousness or greed with idolatry (Eph. 5:5). Your career, your pursuit of money, your possessions, excessive devotion to leisure and recreation, or even putting a human relationship ahead of your relationship with God, may all become idols. Putting your intellect above God’s revelation, just as Nicodemus did in John 3, is idolatry. Watching hours of inane or immoral TV shows each week or spending hours playing computer games, while not having time to spend with God or serve Him, is idolatry.

John tells us to “guard” ourselves from idols, which implies that we have something valuable that the enemy is trying to steal. Charles Spurgeon, a 19th century British preacher, points out that if a man has a box and he’s not sure what’s in it, he won’t be very careful about guarding it. But if he knows that it contains a rare and valuable treasure, he will be diligent to guard it carefully. John is saying that if you know the true God and His Son Jesus Christ, you have a treasure. Guard it so that you don’t drift into one of the many forms of idolatry.

**Sunrise Community Church**  
*Come acknowledge the Lord in our midst*  
**EVERY SUNDAY BEGINNING AT 8:45 A.M.**

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| JANUARY 2015 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S            | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
| 28           | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4            | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11           | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18           | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25           | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SUNRISE

### January 2015

- Dec. 28 8:45 AM 1st John 5 verses 14-17  
10:30 AM Sunday School
- Jan. 4 8:45 AM 1st John 5 verses 18- 21  
10:30 AM Sunday School
- Jan. 6 *Twelfth Night No Bible Study*
- Jan. 9 6:30 PM Friday Night Fellowship
- Jan. 11 8:45 AM New Series in 2nd and 3rd John  
2nd John Verses 1-6  
*Prescription for a Healthy Church*  
10:30 AM Sunday School
- Jan. 13 7:00 PM Bible Study resumes at the Kikkert's
- Jan. 16 7:00 PM Game Night
- Jan. 18 8:45 AM 2nd John Verses 7 to 13  
*Prescription for a Healthy Church Pt 2*  
10:30 AM Sunday School
- Jan. 20 7:00 PM Bible Study at the Kikkert's
- Jan. 23 6:30 PM Friday Night Fellowship
- Jan. 25 8:45 AM 3rd John  
Verses 1 to 15  
*Spiritual Life and Love*  
10:30 AM Sunday School
- Jan. 27 7:00 PM Bible Study at the Kikkert's
- Jan. 30 *No Friday Night Activities*

## Sunrise Community Church

*Congratulates Rose Parade Participants*

### Pride of Temple City

Temple City High School Marching Band & Pageantry Corps

& *Gwen Kikkert, Trumpeter*

## The Hymns We Sing

COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™

<http://www.hymntime.com/>

### The Lily Of The Valley

Hymn page: <http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/l/i/lilyvall.htm>

Tune: [http://www.hymntime.com/tch/mid/l/i/lily\\_of\\_the\\_valley.mid](http://www.hymntime.com/tch/mid/l/i/lily_of_the_valley.mid)

"I am a rose of Sharon, a lily of the valleys."

Song of Solomon 2:1



Charles W. Fry (1838-1882)  
and family

**Words: Charles W. Fry,**  
1881; first appeared in the  
Salvation Army's *The War Cry*,  
December 29, 1881.  
Fry wrote the lyrics in  
Lincoln, England, while  
working with the Salvation  
Army there.

**Music: William S. Hays;**  
adapted by Charles W. Fry



William S. Hays  
(1837-1907)

I have found a friend in Jesus, He's everything to me,  
He's the fairest of ten thousand to my soul;  
The Lily of the Valley, in Him alone I see  
All I need to cleanse and make me fully whole.  
In sorrow He's my comfort, in trouble He's my stay;  
He tells me every care on Him to roll.

#### Refrain

*He's the Lily of the Valley, the Bright and Morning Star,  
He's the fairest of ten thousand to my soul.*

He all my grief has taken, and all my sorrows borne;  
In temptation He's my strong and mighty tower;  
I have all for Him forsaken, and all my idols torn  
From my heart and now He keeps me by His power.  
Though all the world forsake me, and Satan tempt me  
sore,  
Through Jesus I shall safely reach the goal.

#### Refrain

He will never, never leave me, nor yet forsake me here,  
While I live by faith and do His blessed will;  
A wall of fire about me, I've nothing now to fear,  
From His manna He my hungry soul shall fill.  
Then sweeping up to glory to see His blessed face,  
Where the rivers of delight shall ever roll.

#### Refrain

A young Jewess had been converted in London through her German governess. She had been forbidden to read the New Testament by her parents, who were ardent Jews; but while reading Isaiah 53 she found the Messiah, and was soon expelled from her home. She then went to Germany, and herself acted as governess for several years.

When she heard of Mr. Moody's work at Northfield [Massachusetts], she decided to go there. Having been entertained in London for a few weeks by Mr. Denny, a prominent layman, this gentleman asked me one day in London, as I was about to sail for America, if I would see her safely across the ocean,

which I promised to do. In Louisville she first saw Mr. Moody.

On leaving Louisville she went to New York and applied to the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions for appointment as a foreign missionary. There being some delay in accepting her application, she decided to go with the Rev. Hudson Taylor, whom she had met at Northfield. On arriving in China she adopted the garb of the Chinese women, and became a faithful and useful worker. After two years she was married to a missionary from Scotland. They are still engaged in missionary work in Northern China.

— Ira Sankey