

Look

“We must rapidly begin the shift from a "thing-oriented" society to a "person-oriented" society. When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, materialism, and militarism are incapable of being conquered.” --Martin Luther King, Jr.

1. This quote is now close to fifty years old. Do you believe we are still a “thing-oriented society? Why or why not?
2. What is some “thing” in your life that might take up more of your time, money or resources than it should? Discuss.
3. What can “things” do to relationships?

Book

Exodus 32: 1-14

The Israelites become “thing-centered” and not “God-centered.”

1. Why do you think, that despite all of God’s miracles they had witnessed, were the Israelites still eager to worship an idol over God? How does a false god prevent the true God from being a part of our lives?
2. In what way might God’s anger towards the Israelites be tied to his mercy for them?
3. Compare and contrast the roles of Aaron and Moses in this passage. What part does Moses play in God’s relenting?

Took

When we make things idols and don’t have time for God and his way then our lives are on track to become unmanageable, unlivable, not fun. But God loves us so much that he gets angry sometimes...angry enough to get us back on the right path to life and love.

1. What things or idols in your life can interfere with your time with God?
1. How have you seen God getting angry and reaching out to you to bring you back to the right path?
2. In what way do you see yourself like Aaron in this passage? In what way like Moses? What does Moses’ intercession reveal to you about prayer?