

## God Judges: Idolatry



**Review:** If God Reigns provided the 'blueprint' for how God wished his people to live in the Promised Land, then God Judges reflects the reality. Indeed, the people of God failed to live out his commands of love and obedience, but were distracted and misled into putting other things in His place. So over the next month, in God Judges, we'll hear about how God holds us to account for the important things in life – and we'll look closely at four aspects of waywardness, then and now – idolatry, injustice, pride and false leaders.



### Discuss:

- Christopher Wright says in 'The Mission of God' that " idolatry dethrones God and enthrones creation". Read Jeremiah 10:1-16, then focus in on verses, 5, 11 and 14-15. What are the characteristics of idols that the prophet emphasises? By contrast what aspect of who God is comes to the fore in verse 12-13 and 16?
- What are the 'very best things in life'? Name them and consider how they risk occupying centre stage in our lives. How might God want us to view them?
- Times of crisis in our lives sometimes help us see the truth more clearly. God works in us at those times, but also when things may be relatively stable. At either time, how can we recognise false idols and put Jesus where he belongs – at the centre of our lives? How can we use HTC's Lent programme to help?



**Pray:** that we will know and recognise God at work. In our awareness of how we risk putting good things or people in his place. In understanding how we can correct that by turning to him decisively. In believing that he desires us to be truly his, King of our lives, our choices and all that we are. Give thanks for a God that won't fade, won't disappoint and won't leave us unfulfilled. But one in whose presence, love and mercy we can rely.