

# American Idols: The War Within

Bruce Wesley

March 7, 2010

1. Why do you think Christians aren't more different from the cultures that they live in? In what areas are you too similar to the people around you?
2. Read Ezekiel 14:1-5. What idols are hidden within your heart? How will God respond to that?
3. Read James 4:1-3. What areas of your life are most stained by conflict? What topics tend to make you argumentative?
4. What desires are driving your life? How is this evidenced by the conflicts in your life?
5. Which desire is winning the war in your heart? How does it affect your relationships with God, family, friends, co-workers, neighbors?
6. What legitimate desire are you allowing to gain illegitimate control of your life, at times disregarding truth and goodness in order to fulfill it?
7. How do you punish those whom you are in relationship with when they fail to fulfill your inordinate desires?
8. Read James 4:4-6. How have your prayers been affected by the inflation of your desires?
9. Are you expecting God to be a *waiter* rather than your Lord? How do you respond when God gives you what you need instead of what you want?
10. Read James 4:7-10. What is pride holding onto in your life? What desires do you need to hold in an open hand, submitting it to God?
11. What difference can it make when we pray with open hands and a humble heart? What idols do you need to forsake today?