

The Bible Tells Me So  
Week 5: Moses and the Golden Calf

Exodus 32 (pg. 28)

Everyone \_\_\_\_\_ something.

Aaron acted on \_\_\_\_\_, not on his convictions.

Exodus 32:5 (NLT) Aaron saw how excited the people were, so he built an altar in front of the calf. Then he announced, "Tomorrow will be a festival to the Lord!"

Moses deflects the honor to \_\_\_\_\_ God.

Exodus 32:13 (NLT) Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. You bound yourself with an oath to them, saying, 'I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars of heaven. And I will give them all of this land that I have promised to your descendants, and they will possess it forever.'"

Aaron's response when confronted:

1. He \_\_\_\_\_ the situation (22)
2. He points out the shortcomings of \_\_\_\_\_ (22-23)
3. He \_\_\_\_\_ about his involvement (24)

Moses' response was to seek \_\_\_\_\_ from God.

Exodus 32:30 (NLT) The next day Moses said to the people, "You have committed a terrible sin, but I will go back up to the Lord on the mountain. Perhaps I will be able to obtain forgiveness for your sin."

Exodus 34:1-17 (pg. 30)

Moses gains \_\_\_\_\_ for Israel.

Exodus 34:8 (NLT) Moses immediately threw himself to the ground and worshiped.

Everyone worships something. The evidence of what you worship is:

1. Your \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Your \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Your \_\_\_\_\_.

Exodus 34:14 (NLT) You must worship no other gods, for the Lord, whose very name is Jealous, is a God who is jealous about his relationship with you.

Final Thought: We were created to worship; therefore, everyone worships something. Is your life filled with \_\_\_\_\_ or something else?

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### Golden Calf Discussion Questions

What did you learn for the first time by studying this popular story as an adult? What was surprising in the biblical text? What wasn't in the biblical text that you thought was? Explain.

"Everyone worships something." Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why or why not? What else, other than God, does our culture tend to worship? (use the time, money, thoughts test; you should be able to make a pretty long list) Why do you think there are so many things on this list? Explain.

Read Exodus 20:1-21. This is the set up for the story of the golden calf. Does knowing that the people of Israel were with Moses when he originally received the ten commandments change the golden calf story at all? Why or why not? Review once again the original ten commandments. What stands out to you about them? How many of the ten commandments are we good at keeping? Which ones do we struggle to keep?

Do you think the Time, Money, and Thoughts test is a good way to figure out what you are really worshipping? Why or why not? Is it possible to have all three of these things dedicated to something you aren't worshipping? Why or why not? If you were to truly apply this test to your life what do you think it would show? Are you happy or sad about this result? Explain. What adjustments do you need to make in your spiritual journey for God to be the only thing you worship?