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<p>Theme: material idols</p>	<p>Date: 23 September 2011</p>
<p>Scripture: Revelation 9:20 (NLT) But the people who did not die in these plagues still refused to repent of their evil deeds and turn to God. They continued to worship demons and idols made of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood - idols that can neither see nor hear nor walk!</p> 	<p>Comment: A report this week by UNICEF concluded that rampant materialism dominates family life to its detriment in the UK.</p> <p>We may not actively try to 'keep up with the Joneses' but it is very hard not to be influenced by our culture. It's easy to get caught up in wanting better homes, technology, cars, clothes etc. Chasing material things is chasing counterfeit Gods. Jesus wants us not only to turn to him but to follow him wholeheartedly. When we do this we find love, peace and joy in our relationship with God and that spills into our marriages and other relationships.</p> <p>What THINGS and temptations to acquire things might get in your way of following God wholeheartedly?</p>
<p>Prayer (as a couple): Lord Jesus, thank you that you are faithful and wholly committed to us. We repent of those material things* that get in the way of our relationship with you and each other. Help us to follow you wholeheartedly for your glory and the sake of our marriage. *be as specific as you can.</p>	<p>Prayer (for others): Lord Jesus, we pray for ... and ... Help them to turn from chasing after material things to you. Help them to know the love, joy and peace that come from a wholehearted relationship with you and experience that in their marriage as well. Amen.</p>
<p>Final quote: "...keep yourselves from idols." 1 John 5:21</p>	

For more on this subject go to: *(insert link)*

Remember others will also be praying in this way this week. Together and with God we can make a difference.