

# ANCHORED | THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

*Lesson 2: God vs. gods*



Dear Parents,

Hello! I wanted to remind you about the study we're doing that focuses on helping students remain steady in the face of adversity, and encourage them grow deeper in their relationship with God. This Bible study is called *Anchored: Sure and Steadfast*, and this week is the second of a three-lesson unit called *The Existence of God*. The lesson was entitled "God vs. gods," and it helps students understand the concepts of polytheism and pantheism, why they are different from Christian beliefs, and how to guard against these beliefs in our own faith.

**LESSON OVERVIEW:** While the title God vs. gods may sound like a showdown between worthy competitors, it is really no competition at all. For Christ-followers, there can be no other gods. But this isn't just a discussion of monotheism versus polytheism. Students will interact with the often-overlooked idea of pantheism, which has slowly infiltrated culture as the idea that all roads lead to God and the elevation of the individual as a source of divine knowledge (think 'I know what is better for me than anyone or anything else). By challenging the unseen pantheism in students' lives, the real showdown is whether they hold God above everything else or alongside all of the other things in their lives.

**WHAT WE WANT YOUR STUDENT TO LEARN:** That the Christian faith leaves no room for false gods.

**WHAT WE WANT YOUR STUDENT TO DO WITH WHAT THEY'VE LEARNED:** Think deeply about the differences between what God is calling us to (monotheism, with Him being the sole focus of our worship) and what the prominent culture suggests (pantheism, where new things and gods are worshipped and counted as equal).

**SCRIPTURE PASSAGES WE STUDIED:** Exodus 32, Isaiah 44:5-7, Acts 17:16-27, Matthew 6:24-27

*Please Take A Few Minutes This Week To Read These Passages.*

*Next Steps. . .*

During the next week, as you engage in conversations with your student, remember that one way that will help them to understand and apply what they have learned is to explain it to someone else. Use the following questions to guide your conversation:

- What was your Anchor Statement for this week? (Answer: As a Christ-follower, I have a unique view of Who God is, and I do not believe that there are any other gods before Him.)
- Do you see any areas where your faith has started to look more pantheistic or polytheistic rather than monotheistic? How can we fix that?
- Did this week's lesson make you think of anyone in particular? Would you like to pray for that person together?

Thank you for all you do. As a parent, you are the primary spiritual influence in the life of your teenager, and they desperately need you. I'm praying for you! If you have any questions or if I can help with anything, please don't hesitate to let me know.