Chapter 8, the god of success:

1. The god of success pulls on the most basic problem of humanity – the pull toward doing it our way, aka ________. (pg. 133)

2. In the example from Luke, the rich young ruler asks Jesus what he must do to inherit (acquire, earn) the kingdom of God. He’s focused on what actions he must take to earn another reward. Jesus tells him to remove the idol, (sell all that he has and give to the poor). Put yourself in the place of the rich young ruler. What do you think Jesus’ response might have been if you asked the same question?

3. As men, success is something we hear about from an early age. We are told that the goal is to work hard so we can be successful. How has success been defined for you?

4. As discussed by Idleman, the word success really doesn’t appear in the Bible. The closest word is blessed. Read through Matthew 5:3-11. How does Jesus’ definition of success (blessed) compare to your answer above?
Chapter 9, the god of money:

1. Of the thirty-eight parables Jesus tells, 16 have to do with money. It’s clear that money (or at least what we think it brings us) is in clear competition with God. To what degree has money become a substitute for God in your life?

2. When we look at money as a ____________, it becomes our god, because that’s where we are putting out ___________ and ________________. (pg. 159)

3. The god of money (or “enough” money) promises security, happiness, and peace when these really only come from God. On a scale from 1 to 10; 1 being we are relying on money for these things, 10 being we are relying on God for these things; where do you fall? _____

4. Based on your answer above, what can move that number closer to 10? Before you answer, take some time to allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you.

Chapter 10, the god of achievement:

1. Idleman uses the example in Luke where Mary and Martha take two different approaches to a visit from Jesus. Who do you most related to; Mary or Martha? Why?

2. When a group of senior citizens were asked the question: “If you had life to live all over again, what would you do differently?” They responded; If I had life to live all over again I would __________________________, __________________________, ___________________________. (pg. 184)
3. Imagine you are standing before Jesus and have to give an “achievement report”. What you your report contain? How do you think Jesus would respond?

Chapter 11, the god of romance:

1. Western society is obsessed with the idea of romantic love. TRUE / FALSE?

2. But romantic love as the __________ __________, an __________, something we __________ __________ or be __________, is a __________, __________ invention. (pg. 196)

3. How has this idea of romantic love affected your relationship(s) with girlfriends or your wife?

4. When you make a relationship with someone else your god, _____________________________________________________________. (pg. 200)

Chapter 12, the god of family:

1. Idleman writes that “Our relationship to the Father is more basic to who we are and to why we have been created. We are intended to love our __________, __________, __________, __________, and __________ wholeheartedly, but always in the context of our __________, __________ love for God. __________ is for God alone.” (pg. 209)

2. In what ways are you tempted to worship your family instead of God?

3. Is your most important relationship the one you have with God? If your answer is yes, what evidence in your life backs this up? If your answer is no, what things do you need to change in order to elevate this relationship to its proper position?
4. A few of the consequences of placing another human being on the throne of your heart are (pgs. 218-222):
   • ________________ ________________
   • ________________ ________________
   • ________________ ________________
   • ________________ ________________
   • ________________ ________________

Chapter 13, the god of me:

1. The foundation of reality is that there is one _________ and ________ are not Him. (pg. 228)

2. Idleman give us a number of ways we can identify the god of me. List them below (pgs. 229-230):
   • ________________
   • ________________
   • ________________
   • ________________

3. When worshipping the god of me we often look to something or someone to do for us what God was meant to do. For example,
   a. Instead of looking to God as a source of comfort, ____________________________________________.
   b. Instead of looking to God as our source of significance, ____________________________________________.
   c. Instead of looking to God as a source of security, ____________________________________________.
   d. Instead of looking to God as our source of joy, ____________________________________________.
   e. Instead of looking to God as our source of hope, ____________________________________________.
   f. Instead of looking to God as our source of truth, ____________________________________________.

   (pg. 232)
4. What are some things that you can do to protect yourself from worship the god of me?

Did you read the book? _____ Yes _____ No If you answered no, are you reading the book now and do you intend to completely read the book in its entirety? ____ Yes ___ No

OPTIONAL Band of Brother Discussion Questions

WEEK ONE:
1. How are you defining success (keeping score) in your life?
2. What would your life look like if your pursuit of success was in line with Matthew 5:3-11?

WEEK TWO:
1. Matthew 6:21; “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” Where is your treasure?
2. If someone who didn’t know you were to look through your finances/life, would they agree with you?
3. Give an example (current or previous) of a time in your life where the pursuit of the god of achievement you were willing to sacrifice relationships with family, friends, Jesus.

WEEK THREE:
1. Share a time when you made a relationship with someone else your god. How did the relationship turn out? What problems or issues di you experience?
2. If you are single share with the group how society’s idea of love and relationships affect your view of being single. How can your brothers stand with you?
3. If you are married share with the group how society’s views of love and relationships affect your marriage. How can your brothers stand with you?

WEEK FOUR:
1. Discuss what hate means in in Luke 14:26 “If anyone come to Me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters – yes, and even his own life – he cannot be My disciple.”
2. In Chapter 13, Idleman discusses a number of consequences that result from placing another human being on the throne of your heart or being placed on the thrown. Have you ever found yourself in one of these situations either as the one giving or receiving?
3. What areas of your life are the most difficult for you to avoid worshiping at the altar of me?
4. How can we, as a Band of Brothers, practically help each other to take ourselves off of God’s throne?