

**Wednesday Bible Study**  
**1 Samuel 5**

1. Reading the text, what do you think the Philistines thought about the God of the Israelites after capturing the ark?

- a. That their gods were at least equal to the God of the Israelites.
- b. That their gods defeated the God of the Israelites.
- c. That their gods gave them the victory.
- d. That their lifestyles must be satisfactory, with the victory being evidence.
- e. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Obviously, we know that the gods of the Philistines were only idols. What kinds of things can we (either purposely or unwittingly) place next to God and worship as idols?

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3. Should God have to compete for our love, worship, and devotion? Why or why not?

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4. What happened to that Dagon?

- a. Dagon was shown to be subject to the only, true God.
- b. Dagon was rendered powerless in the presence of God.
- c. Dagon was shown to be worthless.
- d. The worship of Dagon was exposed as a waste of time.
- e. Other.

5. What has happened when you tried to put your own idols next to your Christianity?

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6. What happened to the Philistines when they brought the ark of God into their presence?

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7. Why are people miserable when they try to bring God into their lives and live the way they want at the same time?

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