

Throughlines

IDOLATRY DISCERNING

Elementary Readings:

Idolatry discerning can be challenging for elementary learners! In addition to introducing children to the idea of *God as Truth* in idolatry discerning, you may explore idolatry discerning along the lines of this target, "I can put God and His priorities first in all areas of my life."

- [Field of Beans](#), Doug Peterson: This Veggie-Tale story is a retelling of the prophet Elijah's story, highlighting God as our powerful provider.
- [When God Made You](#), Matthew Paul Turner: This book focuses on the beauty and value of each person as designed by God. Focusing on God's design and his love for us grounds the work of trusting God in idolatry discerning.
- [You Are Special](#), Max Lucado; This book focuses on what happens when we listen to God and let him define our reality.
- "Daniel and the Scary Sleepover," from [The Jesus Storybook Bible: Every Story Whispers His Name](#), by Sally Lloyd Jones. This retelling of the story of Daniel offers an example of what it looks like to prioritize the love of God over all else.

Secondary Readings:

These two readings focus on how the work of idolatry discerning is ongoing in our lives. Sometimes others cannot see what we see as we follow God's direction in our lives, and sometimes we lose our way and are pulled off course. The work of recognizing stories that invite us to seek Truth and participate with the Truth is ongoing, life-long work.

- [The Way It Is](#), William Stafford
- [A prayer for when we've lost our way again](#), Enuma Okoro

Liturgy:

This [Liturgy for Idolatry Discerning](#) draws from rich passages of Scripture in the Old Testament Prophets, the book of Philippians, and The Book of Common Prayer. Invite the learners to lead different parts of the liturgy, as a way of deepening their engagement and ownership.