Point 1: Use videos to illustrate the point.

Show at least some portions of the video “Concert Crowd” (2 minutes, 6 seconds): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XQymbaB1ngQ

Follow up by playing parts of the video documenting the highest attendance ever at a high school football game (3 minutes, 45 seconds): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BGnR4k48Djo

Ask group members the follow questions:
• What are the differences between the clips we just watched and our church services?
• Why are these venues packed out but our church facilities less attended?
• Why do these people look thrilled to be at these events but people attending church services often look like they wish they were elsewhere?

Put something like the following into your own words: “Idolatry is anything that we put in God’s position, not just little wooden statues. How many hundreds of thousands of people worship at the altars of music and sports instead of God? Do you think it is fair to say that while we don’t bow down to physical idols we have the same problem that the Israelites had?”

Point 2: Draw an analogy to explain the necessity of discipline.

State something like the following to your group: “Abuse is a hot button topic in today’s culture. While everyone doesn’t agree on what abuse is or isn’t in regards to spanking, it is sure to spark a heated discussion. In Judges 2:14-15, the children of Israel are disciplined, and while some people see this as spiteful and not loving, the Bible paints discipline in a different light.”
Then allot time for summarizing the article, “Poll: Most Approve of Spanking Kids,” about Americans’ outlook on corporeal punishment applied to children: https://abcnews.go.com/US/story?id=90406&page=1

Ask the following questions:

• How do you discipline your children?
• Do you believe spanking young people to be effective? Why or why not?
• Have you ever developed a biblical definition of discipline?

Read and discuss the article and/or audio recording “Why Parents Spanks” (7 minutes, 20 seconds): https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/why-parents-spank

Before moving on, challenge group members to develop a biblical outlook on the disciplining of children.

**Point 3: Play a lyric video to emphasize the point.**

Watch the lyric video for the song “You Love Me Anyway” by Sidewalk Prophets (4 minutes, 20 seconds): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=myP9Mvs1sOk

Ask the group the following questions:

• How does this video make you feel?
• Knowing that Israel began a cycle in Judges of repeating the same sins, does this video give you a different perspective on rising above sin?

Reiterate that while we struggle with sin, we are kept by the love of God in Christ. God doesn’t demand perfection because we cannot be perfect. We do not thus pursue perfection in order to receive God’s love. We strive to be obedient not in order to gain God’s love but because He eternally loves us in Christ and by the Holy Spirit has changed us by His grace.