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Today's Old Testament reading comes from the 32nd chapter of the book of Exodus. Moses had climbed Mt. Sinai to talk to God. The Israelites felt that he had been gone too long. They began to grumble and asked Aaron to make them a god to worship. Aaron then collected all of the gold from among the people, melted it down, and shaped a calf from the gold for them to worship. When Moses came down from the mountain, he found them bowing in worship to this golden calf and pleaded on their behalf to God, asking Him to spare them. In our current small group book, Pastor Rick Warren tells us that we are created for worship...whether we worship money, prestige, power, or God, we were created to worship something. Today's reading and Warren's book challenge us to take a hard look at what exactly we worship...is there something that takes priority over God? Is it our spouse? Our kids? Our material belongings? Colossians 3:5 says "Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires, and greed, which amounts to idolatry."

Not a day goes by that I do not need to recommit my life to Jesus Christ. My earthly nature is a daily struggle, keeping God at the very top of my priority list is a daily struggle, the desires of my flesh are a daily struggle. In week two, Rick Warren urged our groups to watch the short video entitled "How to become a follower of Christ." I realize that as Catholics this type of language can make us uncomfortable. However, our group watched the video as instructed and had a wonderful discussion afterward. We all realized again the importance of developing our personal relationship with Him. This Lent, I urge everyone to spend time identifying our priorities and how we are growing in relationship with Him. Let us recommit ourselves to Christ and put Him first!