

**Love Does Not Envy**  
**Sermon Series: Are You A Good Neighbor?**  
**August 14, 2022**  
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- + 1 Corinthians 13:4c, “Love does not envy” (NIV).
- The Greek NT word translated as “envy” is [ζηλόω; zēloō]. It means “to be heated or to boil with a strong desire.”
- In a nutshell, envy is the passionate desire to \_\_\_\_\_ what someone else has. Jealousy is the passionate desire to \_\_\_\_\_ from someone something they possess or have. It is also the passionate desire to promote one’s self at the expense of another.

**Envy Has Two Forms**

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ what someone else \_\_\_\_\_.
2. **The second is more demonic than the first. It is desiring \_\_\_\_\_ for someone else. We see this form in 1 Kings 3:16-27.**
  - Envy is \_\_\_\_\_ God’s goodness to others and \_\_\_\_\_ God’s goodness to me.
  - + James 3:16, “For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice” (NIV).
  - + Ecclesiastes 4:4, “I’ve learned why people work so hard to succeed. It’s because they envy the things their neighbors have” (GNT).
  - + Proverbs 14:30, “Jealousy and envy are like a cancer in the bones” (NLT).
  - + Matthew 20:1-12, “For the Kingdom of Heaven is like the landowner who went out early one morning to hire workers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>He agreed to pay the normal daily wage and sent them out to work. “At nine o’clock in the morning he was passing through the marketplace and saw some people standing around doing nothing. <sup>4</sup>So he hired them, telling them he would pay them whatever was right at the end of the day. <sup>5</sup>So they went to work in the vineyard. At noon and again at three o’clock he did the same thing. <sup>6</sup>At five o’clock that afternoon he was in town again and saw some more people standing around. He asked them, ‘Why haven’t you been working today?’ <sup>7</sup>They replied, ‘Because no one hired us.’ “The landowner told them, ‘Then go out and join the others in my vineyard’. <sup>8</sup>“That evening he told the foreman to call the workers in and pay them, beginning with the last workers first. <sup>9</sup>When those hired at five o’clock were paid, each received a full day’s wage. <sup>10</sup>When those hired first came to get their pay, they assumed they would receive more. But they, too, were paid a day’s wage. <sup>11</sup>When they received their pay, they protested to the owner, <sup>12</sup>Those people worked only one hour, and yet you’ve paid them just as much as you paid us who worked all day in the scorching heat” (NLT).

**What Is the Vaccine for the Virus of Envy?**

1. **Stop \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - + Matthew 20:10, “When those hired first came to get their pay, they assumed they would receive more. But they, too, were paid a day’s wage” (NLT).
  - + 2 Corinthians 10:12, “We would not dare compare ourselves with those who rate themselves so highly. How stupid they are! They make up their own standards to measure themselves by, and they judge themselves by their own standards!” (GNT).

**Two Major Reasons God Tells Us Not To Compare Ourselves To Anyone Else**

- a. I am \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. If I compare, it will always lead to one of two sins: \_\_\_\_\_ and/or \_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ to others.
- + Matthew 20:10-12, “When those hired first came to get their pay, they assumed they would receive more. But they, too, were paid a day’s wage. <sup>11</sup>When they received their pay, they protested to the

owner, <sup>12</sup>Those people worked only one hour, and yet you've paid them just as much as you paid us who worked all day in the scorching heat" (NLT).

- + Matthew 20:13-15, "But he answered one of them, 'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius, a day's wage? <sup>14</sup>Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. <sup>15</sup>Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'" (NIV).
- + Romans 12:15, "Rejoice with those who rejoice" (NIV).

- Envy is the most demonic of all sins because it is wishing \_\_\_\_\_ on other people. The main thing envy does is it keeps you from entering into the \_\_\_\_\_ of other people.

**3. \_\_\_\_\_ for the blessings He's given to me today.**

- + Philippians 4:11, "I have learned how to be content with whatever I have" (NLT).
- + James 1:17, "Everything that is good in your life is God's gifts to you. These gifts from God to you are wholesome, abundant, efficient and enough for you to fulfill God's purpose for your life" (PAR).
- + 1 Corinthians 4:7-8, "Isn't everything you have and everything you are sheer gifts from God? <sup>8</sup>So what's the point of all this comparing and competing? You already have all you need" (MSG).
- + Ecclesiastes 6:9, "It's better to be satisfied with what you have than always to be wanting something else" (GNT).

**Remember This:**

- a. Envy is NOT \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Envy is \_\_\_\_\_ somebody who already has what you desire, dream or want.
- c. Envy says, "I can't be \_\_\_\_\_ until I \_\_\_\_\_ what I want."

**4. When life seems \_\_\_\_\_ to me, trust \_\_\_\_\_.**

- + Matthew 20:12, "These last workers have put in only one easy hour and yet you have made them equal to us, who slaved all day under the scorching sun" (MSG).
- + Matthew 20:13, 14b-15, "Friends, I didn't cheat you. I paid you exactly what we agreed on . . . <sup>14b</sup>What business is it of yours if I want to pay them the same that I paid you? <sup>15</sup>Don't I have the right to do whatever I want to do with my own money?"
- + Exodus 20:17, "You must not be envious of your neighbor's house, or want to sleep with his wife, or want to own his slaves, oxen, donkeys, or anything else he has" (TLB).

- Life is about the \_\_\_\_\_ of God and the \_\_\_\_\_ of God for our lives, not the \_\_\_\_\_ we think we are due. When we are envious, we are in a battle with God. Envy is the \_\_\_\_\_. Doubting God is the \_\_\_\_\_.
- The bottom line on envy is this. When I'm envious, I'm in a \_\_\_\_\_.

**5. Keep focus on \_\_\_\_\_.**

- + Matthew 20:14a, "Take your money now and go" (CEV).
- + Hebrews 12:1, ". . . let us strip off anything that slows us down or holds us back . . . and let us run with patience the particular race that God has set before us" (TLB).
- + Psalms 139:15, "You saw me before I was born and scheduled every day of my life before I began to breathe" (TLB).
- + James 4:2b-3, "You scheme with envy and harm others to selfishly obtain what you crave—that's why you quarrel and fight. And all the time you don't obtain what you want because you won't ask God for it! <sup>3</sup> And if you ask, you won't receive it for you're asking with corrupt motives, seeking only to fulfill your own selfish desires" (TPT).
- + Matthew 20:16 & 26, "'So those who are last now will be first then, and those who are first will be last . . . <sup>26</sup>If you want to be great, you must become the servant of all the others" (NLT/CEV).
- + Mark 10:45, "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many" (NLT).