

Pacific Growth Group – Sermon Questions

Week of January 11th, 2025

Sermon Series: Redeeming the Scroll!

Sermon Theme: “The Comparison Trap.”

Primary Text(s): Genesis 4:1-16.

1. **Read Primary Passage(s).**
2. Historical & Human Roots.
 - a. *The sermon emphasized that comparison is not new, only intensified by technology. Why is it important to recognize comparison as an ancient heart issue rather than a purely modern problem?*
3. A Starting Point for the Comparison Trap is Reactions.
 - a. *In Genesis 4, Cain’s comparison begins with his reaction to God’s response. What kinds of reactions (approval, affirmation, likes, comments, silence) tend to shape how you evaluate your own worth?*
 - b. *Cain’s reaction led to anger and dejection. Which emotions tend to surface most when comparison takes hold of you, and how do those emotions usually influence your actions or attitudes?*
4. A Source of Fuel for the Comparison Trap is Envy.
 - a. *Why is envy such a powerful accelerant for comparison, and how does it subtly distort how we see God, others, and ourselves?*
 - b. *Cain’s internal comparison eventually led to relational rupture and separation from God. What are some modern, less visible ways comparison damages relationships, spiritual health, or integrity today?*
5. A Few Ways for Redemption from the Comparison Trap are Found in Contentment.
 - a. *The sermon reframed our lives as an offering to God rather than a performance for others. What would it look like for you to offer God your best, not leftovers, in this season of life?*
 - b. *How does resting in God’s acceptance differ from seeking acceptance through productivity, success, or online validation? What changes when acceptance is received rather than chased?*
 - c. *As you reflect on contentment in God’s offering, acceptance, and human design, which of these feels most challenging for you right now, and what is one practical step you can take this week to redeem comparison rather than be ruled by it?*