

Resurrect Me

Envy

We tend to live with this belief that what we are looking for is somewhere else. “If I could only be like them, if I could only have what they have; if I could only have more than I have right now, then life will be good.” This is what one author in the scriptures refers to as chasing after the wind—it leaves us empty handed and unfulfilled. This week, we are going to confront the issue that is behind a lot of our other issues—envy.

Day 1 James 4:1-10

According to the author, what is at the heart of most of our issues with one another? How have you experienced this to be true? What wisdom can we glean from this passage about confronting our envy?

Day 2 Matthew 20:1-6

What does this parable teach us about the root of our envy? In what ways do you identify with the laborers who worked longer but were paid the same? Would you have reacted the same? Why or why not? Prayerfully ask yourself the second half of verse 15: “Are you, in any way jealous of God’s generosity?”

Day 3 Proverbs 14:26-30

Envy has been said to cause one to define good as what they do not have and to hate the good they do have. Do you agree with that statement? Explain. What does this passage have to say to that?

Day 4 Luke 15:11-32

In what ways can you identify with the older brother? How do you see envy getting the best of him? How is envy keeping you from enjoying the party? How does trusting the father’s words to his son, “You are always with me and everything I have is yours,” empower us to deal with our envy?

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Day 5 Ecclesiastes 4:1-6

In order to deal with our envy, we will have to kill the comparison. What does this passage have to say to that? Who do you tend to compare yourself to? Put verse 6 into your own words.

Day 6 Philippians 4:4-9

What role does gratitude play in helping us crucify our envy? What does this passage have to teach us about the power of gratitude? Identify 3 examples of God's outrageous grace in your life and write about each of them.

Day 7 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

How does generosity help us move past our envy? What does this passage have to teach us about that? Put verses 10 and 11 in your own words. Prayerfully consider someone you often find yourself envious of and ask God to show you how you can demonstrate generosity toward them.