

Envy: The Sin you don't (*think you*) have

Ok, maybe you do. Learn to recognize envy in its various forms and rid yourself of this destructive sin.

Goals for this class:

1. How to understand envy.
2. Why we ought to deal with envy.
3. Where to take your envy.

1. What is it?

Psalm 73:1-3

You want someone else's life. Instead of rejoicing for the good they have, we resent their lives.

Can you think of examples in of any Bible characters that were envious?

1. The Jewish leaders envied Christ because He drew crowds (Matt. 27:18).
2. Some Christians in Philippi envied Paul for the same reason (Phil. 1:15,16).
3. Joseph's brothers sold him for envy (Acts 7:9).
4. The Jews were envious toward Paul (Acts 13:45; 17:5).
5. King Saul became envious of David when the women gave David more glory than they did Saul (1 Sam. 18:7-12).

What are reasons we have today for having envy toward another?

Examples: One gets better grades, more recognition, higher honors, better promotion, higher pay raise, etc. than others.

Test: Am I unhappy with other people's happiness?

Do I rejoice with other people's unhappiness, or do I weep with them?

2. Why we need to deal with envy.

1. It hides from you. (Ps 73:20)
2. It removes joy out of your life.
3. It poisons us psychologically and socially. (Proverbs 14:30)
4. If you understand what you envy, you will understand your heart.

3. Where do we take our envy?

1. Look up and look ahead. (Proverbs 23:17-18)
2. Worship – Sanctuary Experience (Psalm 73:20-26)
Psalm 63 – David sees, tastes, felt God's love