

OVERCOMING HEART PROBLEMS

Based on a study by Wendell Winkler

Lesson 2 - Overcoming Envy

Intro: No matter our position in church, our moral upbringing, or our age or maturity, envy is a weapon that Satan can and does use to damage our heart. Socrates once said, *envy is the daughter of pride, the author of murder and revenge, the creator of secret sedition (inciting people to rebel), and the perpetual tormenter of virtue. Envy is the filthy slime of the soul; a venom, a poison, which consumes the flesh and dries up the soul.* Webster's definition: *a chagrin or discontent at the excellence or good fortune of another; resentful or begrudging.* Cruden's Concordance: *Discontent at the excellence or good fortune of another. Frequently in the Bible with the distinct idea of malice or spite. An envious person feels that any honor done for another is a galling (humiliating) dishonor to himself (Winkler).*

THE NATURE OF ENVY

What do the following verses say about envy?

James 3:13-14

Psa.73:3, Pro.24:1

Titus 3:3, Isa.11:13

Luke 15:27-30 (What did envy do to the elder brother?)

Pro.14:30

Pro. 27:4

THE ASSOCIATES OF ENVY

What is envy associated with in the following verses?

Gal. 5:19-21

2 Cor.12:20

Ro. 1:29-32

RESULTS OF ENVY

What role did envy play in the lives of:

Cain & Able (1 Jo.3:12)

Philistines & Isaac (Gen.26:12-15)

Joseph & his brothers (Gen.37:11, Acts 7:9)

Korah, Dathan, & Abiram (Num.16:1-3, 31-35)

Saul & David

Jesus (Matt.27:18)

Apostles (Acts 5:17-18)

* Have you ever seen members of the church envious of each other? Think about the damage it caused.

GOD'S POSITION ON ENVY

What are God's directions about envy based on the following scriptures?

1 Peter 2:1

Gal. 5:26

Ro. 13:13

OVERCOMING ENVY

Eight keys to overcoming envy:

1. (1 Cor.13:4) L_____ is the remedy! (Ezek.35:11-12) Envy is born of H_____!

2. (Ro.13:13-14, Gal.3:26-27) Put on _____! What does life look like when you "put on" Christ?

3. (1 Cor.3:13) We are to G_____ up and M_____!

4. (Gal.5:19-21) We are to W_____ by the S_____!

5. (1 Cor.12:25-27) Remember we are _____ of the same _____!

6. (Phil.4:11-13) We are to be _____!

7.(Gal.2:20,1 Cor.10:24) We must learn to C_____ self!

8. (James4:5-8) We can ask God for H_____!