

The Facilitator

Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

3/5/17

Text: James 4:1-5

Title: The Seven Deadly Sins: Envy

Teacher: Tim Rice

Surrender through Prayer:

Surrender through prayers for Illumination and Transformation, asking that Jesus would meet with you in this time.

Engage with the Sermon

Read the passage together

Tim continued our series on the Seven Deadly Sins with the sin of Envy. If Pride is an unbelief in God's supremacy as we saw last week, then envy is an unbelief in God's sufficiency. Rather than valuing 1. God, 2. People and then 3. Stuff, we flip our system and we value stuff and circumstances above people, and both of those things above God. We live believing that God isn't enough. But the beauty of the gospel is that Jesus truly IS enough, and when we are filled with Him we can live with joyful contentment in any circumstance.

Reflection Questions:

- (Tim distinguished jealousy from envy. He said Jealousy is a longing for something that belongs to you and is being withheld. Envy is a longing for something that does not belong to you. The problem with envy is that it leads us down the path to murder, to want someone else's demise so that we can get what we really desire.)*

 - What have you told yourself you NEED this past month, and how would getting it make your life better?**
 - Who have you gotten angry with because they were keeping you from getting what you want? (What were they keeping you from?)**
- (Tim told the story about his son getting hungry shortly after finishing a meal. Pride is a sense of being full of ourselves, while Envy is a hunger and emptiness. We try to fill ourselves with worldly things that eventually run out (food, clothing, entertainment, pleasure), but Jesus is what no created thing can be, he never runs out! We need God to give us the desire to be hungry for Him.)*

 - Where are you always left longing for more and you need God to give you a hunger for Jesus instead? What hunger do you need Jesus to satisfy?**
- (When we have a heart that is satisfied and filled with Jesus, we are able to live with a joyful contentment in gratitude, delight and generosity. We can be grateful because we have Him, we can be freed to delight in others rather than compare ourselves with them, and we can live generously, freely giving as we have freely received all things from Him.)*

 - Where is God calling you to be more grateful, delighting or generous by being filled with Jesus?**

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A.C.T.S.

(Take some time to list 1 or 2 things in each of these areas then spend some time in prayer, confession and worship as a group.)

1. ADORATION

What draws you to Adore and Praise God for His attributes and Actions?

Worship the LORD for His sufficiency. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit that He is infinite, and therefore He cannot be exhausted or ever run out.

2. CONFESSION

How has this sermon brought to mind sin that you need to Confess and Repent of?

How have you lived ungratefully, envious or selfishly? Confess your unbelief to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and to fill your heart as only He can.

3. THANKSGIVING

What has drawn you to thank Jesus for his salvation (past, present, future)?

Give thanks to Jesus for His miraculous generosity and sufficiency. Thank Him that He is enough and that He has done enough by His atoning work and the gift of His Spirit.

4. SUPPLICATION

In what particular ways do you need Holy Spirit to transform you?

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-11. Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you the fruit of love, especially because of His loving sufficiency. Pray for such joy at His unending love and provision that you would live in grateful love and generosity.

Prepare for Gospel Community:

How has God impacted you the most through today's passage(s)?

Who do you know that lives grumbling, complaining or envying others? Pray for them, asking the Lord to open their eyes to their unbelief AND His glorious sufficiency.