

Sermon series: Fight for Joy!
Text: 1 Samuel 18:1-30
Delivered: February 14th, 2021

Joy vs Envy

Definition: *Feeling* _____ *when others have it* _____.

The Sickness of Envy (What makes envy so deadly?)

- *Inward*: Envy _____ us of joy.
- *Outward*: Envy _____ in misery.
- *Upward*: Envy is _____ in misplaced worship.

The Symptoms of Envy (How can we spot envy in our lives?)

- *Comparison*: Envy _____ on assessment.
- *Cutting Down*: Envy _____ to resentment.
- *Complaining*: Envy _____ discontentment

The Slaughter of Envy (How can we fight back against envy?)

- Savor God's goodness in His _____.
- Savor God's goodness in your _____.
- Savor God's goodness in His _____.

Big Idea: The battle with envy is won by savoring the goodness of God.

- Why is envy considered a deadly sin? What are some things that make envy so poisonous?
- Are there ways that you have found yourself reveling in the misery of others? How might you respond when you feel this happening?
- What are some things that you are most prone to envy in other people? Does this reveal some of the idols you are tempted to worship?
- Do you see social media being a place that causes envy to stir in your heart? What are some ways you might fight against this?
- Cornelius Plantinga Jr. says of envy: "It is a motive that prompts people to slice up other people's reputations, to disparage their achievements, to minimize their virtues, to question their motives, to challenge their integrity ("Nobody's that good!"), and, failing other ways of bringing them down, to kill them." *How have you seen this cutting down of envy at work?*
- What makes God's grace to us such a powerful tool in fighting back against envy? What are some ways you can preach grace to yourself on a regular basis to fight envy?
- Are there practices that help you to be more thankful for what you do have and less focused on what you don't have?
- Are there other things that help you to savor the goodness of God in your life on a regular basis?