

Killing Envy

I Peter 2:1-3; Psalm 37:1-7; Proverbs 14:30

I. Killing Sin

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. **I Corinthians 15:1-2**

A. The Gospel _____ us

B. The Gospel _____ us

C. The Bible encourages us to _____ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. **Romans 8:11, 13**

4 Truths that help us defeat sin:

God is Great—so we don't have to be in control

God is Glorious—so we don't have to fear others

God is Good—so we don't have to look elsewhere

God is Gracious—so we don't have to prove ourselves

From Tim Chester's [You Can Change](#)

II. Killing Envy

Defining Envy

Coveting: I want someone else's _____

Envy: I want someone else's _____

Diagnosing Envy

The Dangers of Envy

A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh, but envy makes the bones rot. **Proverbs 14:30**

Defeating Envy

So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. **I Peter 2:1-3**

Let not your heart envy sinners, but continue in the fear of the Lord all the day. **Proverbs 23:17**

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? **Romans 8:31-32**

For Further Study

1. Envy is a big deal—notice some of the passages in the Bible where we are warned about the danger of envy, and notice the types of sins that tend to associate with envy: **Romans 1:28-32; Galatians 5:25-26; I Corinthians 13:4; James 3:16, 4:1; I Peter 2:1-3.**

2. The 4 truths about God we mentioned are great truths to combat the lies we believe when we give in to temptation. Here is a list of the “4 G’s”, and a Psalm you can reflect on to see that attribute of God:

God is Great: Psalm 27

God is Glorious: Psalm 31

God is Good: Psalm 94

God is Gracious: Psalm 103

3. **Psalm 37:1-7** shows us how King David was advised to fight against evil. What promises can we cling to when we are tempted to envy?

4. There are many examples of envy in the Bible. Look at one that happened between the disciples Peter and John right after the resurrection of Jesus in **John 21:15-22**. How did Jesus reply to Peter's attempt to compare his life with John's? What did Jesus encourage Peter to focus on?

5. I Peter 2:1-3 challenges us to confront envy with God's Word, particularly, the truth about God's goodness. Look at these passages that underscore the goodness of God: **Exodus 33:12-34:10; Romans 8:31-39; Psalm 34:8; Psalm 136:1; Psalm 84:11**

Resources:

[You Can Change](#) by Tim Chester

[Instruments in the Redeemer's Hand](#) by Paul Tripp

To Discuss: With our families, friends, community groups

It is a great discipline to not only study God's Word on our own, but to study God's word in community with others—where we can be helped and encouraged not only to study the Bible but also to put it into practice—to obey the Bible!

1. What evidence of envy do we see in our lives?
2. Which of the dangers of envy got your attention?
3. How does the Gospel confront the lies of envy?
4. What are some practical ways you can remind yourself of God's goodness to you, to protect you from the lies that lead to envy?