



Maintaining True Community: Cheer Each Other On!

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"Love does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth." 1 Cor. 13:4-5

- Envy - Resenting God's goodness to others & ignoring God's goodness to me
- Boast - Verbalize self-importance
- Pride - Self-preoccupation
- Delight in evil – find joy in someone else's misfortune
- Rejoices with the truth – heartfelt joy in someone's fortune

Love doesn't compare - "Where you find envy...you find every evil practice." James 3:16

"Jesus showed them the full extent of His love...Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under His power, and that He had come from God and was returning to God; so He got up from the meal, took off His outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around His waist..." Jn. 13:1-4

The Antidote for Envy – Matthew 20:1-16

1. Stop comparing yourself to others.

"The workers who were hired about the eleventh hour came and each received a denarius. So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius". Vs 9-10

2. Start enjoying God's grace to others.

"But each one of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. 'These men who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.' 'Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'" Vs 10-11, 15b

3. Be grateful for what you have.

"When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. "These men who were hired last worked only one hour," they said, "and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day." Vs. 20:11

4. Trust God when Life seems unfair.

"These men who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.' "But he answered one of them, 'Friend, I am not being unfair to you. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the man who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money?'" Vs 12-15

5. Keep focused on God's plan for you.

"Take your pay and go!" Vs 20:14

Jesus concluded: "So the last will be first, and the first will be last." Vs16

"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant..."Vs 26