

SERMON: LOVE IS ... Not Envious (Mark 15:6-15)

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It was envy that got Jesus killed. The religious leaders were jealous that Jesus was smarter than them and had a more devoted following than them. Their envy led to death. Envy always kills – it kills joy, it kills fulfillment, and, many times, it kills achievement, because it's so busy complaining about what it doesn't have that it forgets to grow into what it could have.

_____: a feeling of discontent or covetousness with regard to another's advantages, success, possessions, etc. (Dictionary.com)

There was one named Barabbas, who was in prison with rebels who had committed murder during the rebellion. The crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do for them as was his custom. Pilate answered them, "Do you want me to release the King of the Jews for you?" – Mark 15:7-9

What Envy Does ...

1. Envy _____ others.

Mark 15:11-15

2. Envy makes you _____.

Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong; for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away – Psalm 37:1-2

What LOVE Does

1. Love _____ others.

Mark 10:45, Matthew 20:26

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many – Mark 10:45

2. Love _____ misery.

Martin Luther's Explanation to the Fifth Commandment:

"We should fear and love God that we may not hurt nor harm our neighbor in his body, but help and befriend him in every need and danger of life and body"

Questions for individual or group reflection:

Share a time where you were jealous of someone.

How are envy and jealousy related?

Why do you think that people get jealous of others?

Why might God want us to be loving instead of envious?

Remind yourself what the seventh commandment is (see Exodus 20:15)

Remind yourself what the ninth and tenth commandments are (See Exodus 20:18)

Lookup Martin Luther's discussion on these commandments in the Large Catechism: <http://bookofconcord.org/lc-3-tencommandments.php>

How does coveting feed our jealousy and envy?

If we view all good things as coming from God, how might that help us not be jealous or envious of others?

The Jewish leaders, were not envious of Jesus' possessions ... what were they envious of?

What are some areas where God is convicting you of jealousy and envy? What might He want you to change?

Pray: Lord, forgive us for our jealous and covetous hearts. Teach us Lord that our jealousy really represents distrust in You, and that it can lead us to harmful behavior. Lord we repent of our envy that causes so much damage and misery in our lives and in the lives of others. Help us instead to be compelled by Christ's Love. May His Love be so transformative in our lives that we no longer live for ourselves, but for Him and those He calls us to love. Teach us to Love like You. In Jesus' Name. Amen!

Do: Take an inventory of the areas of envy and jealousy in your life.

Taking it home / Memory Verse: "Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant," – Matthew 20:26

This series uses materials from The Preaching Project, San Antonio, TX.





LOVE is

1 CORINTHIANS 13



LOVE is

...NOT ENVIOUS

1 CORINTHIANS 13

ENVY:

a feeling of discontent or covetousness with regard to another's advantages, success, possessions, etc. (Dictionary.com)

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not arrogant, ⁵ is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not irritable, and does not keep a record of wrongs. ⁶ Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸ Love never ends.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-8

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. **Love does not envy**, is not boastful, is not arrogant, ⁵ is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not irritable, and does not keep a record of wrongs. ⁶ Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸ Love never ends.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-8

ENVY:

being unhappy with what you have
and wanting what someone else has.



At the festival Pilate used to release for the people a prisoner whom they requested.

Image: By Antonio Ciseri - <http://www.most-famous-paintings.org/Ecce-Homo-large.html>, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=10356430>

MARK 15:6

⁷ There was one named Barabbas, who was in prison with rebels who had committed murder during the rebellion. ⁸ The crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do for them as was his custom. ⁹ Pilate answered them, “Do you want me to release the King of the Jews for you?”

MARK 15:7-9

Pilate knew it was **because of envy** that the chief priests had handed Him over.

MARK 15:10



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¹¹ The chief priests stirred up the crowd so that Pilate would release Barabbas to them instead.
¹² Pilate asked them again, “Then what do you want me to do with the one you call the King of the Jews?” ¹³ Again they shouted, “Crucify Him!” ¹⁴ Pilate said to them, “Why? What has He done wrong?” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify Him!”

MARK 15:11-15

¹⁵ Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them; and after having Jesus flogged, he handed Him over to be crucified.

MARK 15:11-15

WHAT ENVY DOES...

WHAT ENVY DOES...

Envy damages others.

WHAT ENVY DOES...

Envy damages others.
Envy makes you miserable.

¹ Do not be agitated by evildoers; do not envy those who do wrong. ² For they wither quickly like grass and wilt like tender green plants.

PSALM 37:1-2

WHAT LOVE DOES...

Love serves others.

“The Son of Man did not come to be served,
but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom
for many.”

MARK 10:45

“Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant.”

MATTHEW 20:26

Martin Luther's Explanation to the Fifth Commandment:

“We should fear and love God that we may not hurt nor harm our neighbor in his body, but help and befriend him in every need and danger of life and body”

WHAT LOVE DOES...

Love serves others.

Love overcomes misery.