

KILLING WHAT'S KILLING YOU | WEEK 1: COMPARISON

JANUARY 6, 2018

SERMON STUDY

Dive deeper into this week's message and passages from the Bible. Here are some questions to help guide your group discussion.

Like spider webs, we often don't see life's biggest problems coming until we're tangled up in them. We want to avoid the webs, but what we really need is to kill the spider—or get to the roots and true causes of our issues.

Read Romans 8:12-13 and 2 Corinthians 10:12. Envy is a feeling of discontent or resentful longing aroused by someone else's possessions, qualities, or luck. Our sinful nature urges us to compare ourselves to others, taking our eyes off of who God made us to be and what he wants us to do—but we have no obligation to keep dealing with these “webs.”

- How have comparison and envy tripped you up in your life?
- Has social media or something else caused comparison and envy to increase in your life? If so, explain.
- When we get a sense of value through comparison, we either feel superior about ourselves or inferior to others. In what ways have you experienced this? How has this diminished your understanding of how God sees you?

Read John 20:1-4, 20:8, 21:7, 21:20-22, and Hebrews 12:1-2. While the Bible teaches a godly response to envy and comparison, there are plenty of examples of Jesus' followers who struggled in this area. Even though they knew Jesus, Peter and John constantly gave into the urge to compete for first place with Jesus.

In what ways do you relate to Peter and John's competition motivated by comparison?

Whose opinion of you matters most?

What are some practical ways to begin killing comparison and envy in your life to increase your focus on Jesus?

REFLECT

What is God saying to you through his word? How and when will you respond?

DAILY BIBLE READING

Need a review of what we're reading in Daily Bible Reading? Here's a glance at how we're being challenged this week. (Subscribe at: tpcc.org/dailybiblereading)

Day One: Romans 8:12-13 | Put to death comparison and envy.

Day Two: 2 Corinthians 10:12 | Superior or inferior.

Day Three: John 20:1-4 and John 20:8 | Fighting for first place.

Day Four: John 21:7 and 20-22 | What is that to you?

Day Five: Hebrews 12:1-2 | Keep your eyes fixed ahead.