
January 25, 2026

INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY:

When is a time in your life that you experienced jealousy or envy?

SCRIPTURE VERSES:

Acts 13:44-46; Galatians 5:19-21; Proverbs 27:4; 14:30; James 4:1-2, 3:16; Genesis 37; 1 Samuel 18; Mark 15:10;

MEMORY VERSE:

"Wrath is cruel, anger is overwhelming, but who can stand before jealousy?" -Proverbs 27:4

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. When do you remember the first instance of jealousy/envy in the Bible? Where did that feeling stem from?
2. When you feel envious or jealous, where does that stem from in you?
3. What does envy do to relationships? How does it impact us as we seek to love our neighbors and even our enemies?
4. What are antidotes to jealousy/envy? What can we do to try to combat it?
5. What area of your life are you experiencing envy or jealousy? How will you engage with this area this week?

Questions to Ask When Reading the Bible

Sometimes when we read a passage in the Bible it can be confusing or we may not know how to best figure out what it is saying. Below are some good questions to ask when reading the Bible to help make the Bible make sense.

What stands out to me?

Note that this does not say “What does this passage mean?” Consider what stood out to you? What did you notice? What did the Holy Spirit highlight for you as you read it?

What does the text say about the character/nature of God

The Scriptures are primarily about God so ask first what the text says about Him before moving to what it says about us, about His plan, or about anything else.

What does the text say?

Look at what the text literally says first (this may not be the intent of the text but it is important to look at it as read... at least initially).

How is it saying it?

What is the genre of the text and how should we read text in that genre?

Why does it say it that way?

Speculate about why the author chose this method of saying what they’ve said.

What is it trying to say?

Getting behind the Scripture, looking at its context, its original audience, its author, etc., what is the text trying to get across to the reader (both the original audience and us today?)

How does this fit into the whole of the book and the whole of Scripture?

Looking at the whole book, does what is being said jive with the whole book, with the whole of Scripture?

What questions do I have?

Do you have questions about the text? If they aren’t answered in the text, are they good questions or are we asking questions that the text isn’t meant to answer?

How do I feel about this teaching/text? Why do I feel that way?

What does your gut say? Are you frustrated with it? Are you trying to make it say something else than what it says? Does it make you uncomfortable? Where are these feelings coming from? Is there sin in my life I need to repent of?

What is the universal application of this text/teaching?

What are we to do with this text? Consider the original audience as well as us today.

What is my personal application?

What is God calling you to apply with what you’ve learned with this text?

How will I apply what it calls me to?

Make a plan to apply what God has taught you. Seek to be faithful and obedient to His leading, wherever it may go.