



SBSG – Baggage Check: Envy - Contentment

The Purpose of a Sermon Based Small Group (to be read at the beginning of each gathering)

The purpose of our small group is to actively pursue Christ through grace filled relationships.

READ ALOUD BY ALL (allow this prayer to shape your time together)

Dear God, help me in this dialogue to be humble & suspend judgment. I recognize that we are all created in your image. Give me courage to stay curious about each other by asking questions. Thank you, God, for this opportunity to meet together and in so doing grow closer to you. AMEN

Sermon Series: Baggage Check: Envy - Contentment

Opening question: In what ways do you get jealous, envious or compare yourself to others?

Sermon Synopsis: Jealousy is a funny feeling. Many think that jealousy and competition fuel them to be better. And sometimes that is true. But at its heart, Jealousy is about comparing ourselves to others and seeing what we don't have and can't do. All of this energy often keeps us from what we do have and what God has uniquely gifted us to do. As we start a new year, we will challenge one another to set down the suitcase of jealousy and instead embrace contentment with who we are uniquely created to be and the race that has been given to us to run.

Bible Reading

Reading the Bible is about reading for practice and spiritual formation – spiritual formation, in which the reader seeks to be formed by the Spirit of God.

Passage(s) from the sermon: Rom. 12:4-8, Philippians 4:11b-12, Matthew 11:28-30 (CEB)

Was there one passage that stood out to you more than the others...and why?
What do you think it means that Jesus' yoke is easy? And what's a yoke anyway?

Discipleship Point: Contentment is the antidote to jealousy.

Application: In what practical ways can you be more content this week?

Personal Prayer Request

Share a one or two sentence prayer request with the Small Group for this next week. Remember these prayer requests are about **your life**, not someone else's.

(Sample Prayer)

God, we thank you for your presence with us. We lift up these requests to you knowing that you care deeply about us...we pray for _____ and _____ and (fill in prayer requests) ... God we know that you have heard our request, and we release all outcomes to you and your glory. It's in your Son's name Jesus that we pray...**AMEN.**