

# OVERCOMING COMPARISON

## *The Overcoming Life - Week 12*

John 21:17-23 “Then he said it a third time: “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was upset that he asked for the third time, “Do you love me?” so he answered, “Master, you know everything there is to know. You’ve got to know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my sheep. I’m telling you the very truth now: When you were young you dressed yourself and went wherever you wished, but when you get old you’ll have to stretch out your hands while someone else dresses you and takes you where you don’t want to go.” He said this to hint at the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. And then he commanded, “Follow me.”

Turning his head, Peter noticed the disciple Jesus loved following right behind. When Peter noticed him, he asked Jesus, “Master, what’s going to happen to him?”

Jesus said, “If I want him to live until I come again, what’s that to you? You—follow me.”

### I. Comparison Considerations

A. No one gets it \_\_\_\_\_!

B. We seek \_\_\_\_\_ over impact.

The more your impact, the less your influence.

C. God gives the most profound gifts in people we least expect.

1 Corinthians 12:23-25 “The parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So, we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen,<sup>24</sup> while the more honorable parts do not require this special care. So, God has put the body together such that extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity.<sup>25</sup> This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other.

D. We all deal with \_\_\_\_\_.

E. Everyone has \_\_\_\_\_!

### II. The Curse of Comparison

A. Produces \_\_\_\_\_ or insecurity

B. Keeps me \_\_\_\_\_ on myself and others.

Romans 8:5-6 Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit.<sup>6</sup> So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace.

C. \_\_\_\_\_ our trust in God

D. Resentful and Rejecting of Others.

E. Trying to be something I am not.

Psalms 139:16 (NIRV) “Your eyes saw my body even before it was formed. You planned how many days I would live. You wrote down the number of them in your book before I had lived through even one of them.”

F. \_\_\_\_\_ the door to the Adversary

James 3:14-16 “But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don’t cover up the truth with boasting and lying.<sup>15</sup> For jealousy and selfishness are not God’s kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic.<sup>16</sup> For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind.”

### III. Causes of Comparison

A. Lack of \_\_\_\_\_ in who God made me to be.

The Artist - © Life Church Worship

*You fill every canvas with wonder*

*You cover the white space with color*

*I can’t always see what you’ve started*

*But I put my faith in The Artist*

*You craft something perfect despite my mistakes*

*My failures are met by the full force of grace*

*Your blood hit the canvas with one final stroke*

*The cost of redemption, your life for my own*

**B. Lack of \_\_\_\_\_ and identity in God**

Jeremiah 17:5-8 “Cursed are those who put their trust in mere humans, who rely on human strength and turn their hearts away from the Lord. <sup>6</sup>They are like stunted shrubs in the desert, with no hope for the future. They will live in the barren wilderness, in an uninhabited salty land. <sup>7</sup>“But blessed are those who trust in the Lord and have made the Lord their hope and confidence. <sup>8</sup>They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit.”

**C. Wrong Concept of God**

**D. Greed - Covetousness**

**E. Jealousy and Envy**

**F. Lack of Love for Others**

1 John 2:15-16 “Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. <sup>16</sup> For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father but are from this world.”

**IV. Overcoming Comparison**

**A. \_\_\_\_\_ who God made me (and thank Him for it)**

1 Thessalonians 5:18 “in the midst of everything be always giving thanks, for this is God’s perfect plan for you in Christ Jesus.”

Ephesians 2:10 “For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.”

**B. \_\_\_\_\_ God . . .**

1. With my needs and my desires.
2. To make me into the person I want to become.
3. With others and stop interfering with His work in their lives.

**C. \_\_\_\_\_ others in their advantages.**

**D. Be a \_\_\_\_\_ and encourager.**

# Overcoming Comparison



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**May 24, 2020**

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