

Review:

•We chase the carrot because of an internal void.

- Spiritual <u>needs</u> can't be satisfied by <u>temporary</u> things.
- •Only God can satisfy our internal void.

13 Jesus replied, "Anyone who drinks this water will soon become thirsty again. 14 But those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again. It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life." John 4:13-14 (NLT)

4 Make a careful exploration of who <u>you are</u> and the work <u>you have</u> been given, and then sink yourself into that. Don't be impressed with yourself. <u>Don't compare yourself</u> with others.

5 Each of you must take responsibility for doing the creative best you can with your own life. Galatians 6:4-5 (MSG)

What Comparing does:

I fail to <u>acknowledge</u> God's <u>value</u> of me.

5 destructive comparisons:

- My worst to your best: <u>Envy</u>.
- My best to your worst: <u>Boasting</u>.
- My less to your more: <u>Greed</u>.
- My win to your loss: <u>Pride</u>.
- My loss to your win: <u>Jealously</u>.

12 If you puff yourself up, you'll get the wind knocked out of you. But if you're content to simply be yourself, your life will count for plenty. Matthew 23:12 (MSG)

While we strive to be good enough, internally we long to be <u>accepted</u> and <u>appreciated</u>.

 $25\,$ It is dangerous to be concerned with what others think of you, but if you trust the LORD, you are safe. Proverbs 29:25 (TEV)

2 things you need to know about you:

• God's <u>view</u> of you is <u>different</u> than you think.

10 For we are God's <u>masterpiece</u>. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the <u>good things</u> he planned <u>for us long ago</u>. Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

God has given you more than you think.

7 For who do you know that really knows you, knows your heart? And even if they did, is there anything they would discover in you that you could take credit for? Isn't everything you have and everything you are sheer gifts from God? So what's the point of all this comparing and competing?

8 You already have all you need. You already have more access to God than you can handle... 1 Corinthians 4:7-8 (MSG)

How to end comparisons:

• Focus on pleasing <u>God</u> instead of pleasing <u>people</u>.

10 Obviously, I'm not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ's servant. Galatians 1:10 (NLT)

 Live <u>from</u> the approval of <u>God</u> instead of <u>for</u> the approval of <u>people</u>.

4 On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. 1 Thessalonians 2:4 (NIV)

What God says about you:

- God says He <u>accepts</u> you.
- God says He <u>values</u> you.
- God says He loves you.
- God says He <u>forgives</u> you.
- God say you are His <u>child</u>.
- God says you <u>belong</u> to Him.

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)464-5754

Here are some questions that can be used in Connection Groups: These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday?
- Which of the scriptures read on Sunday spoke most to you about comparing?
- Do you struggle with the feeling of not being good enough?
- Why is comparing ourselves to others dangerous?
- Which of the 5 destructive comparisons do you struggle with most?
- In you opinion, what is the danger of comparisons? What is the positive side of comparisons?
- How is God's view of you different than your view of yourself?
- Other than the two points given, how can we put an end to comparisons?
- What are some other things that God says about us that are not listed?

Connection Group Leaders: Remind your group of the following announcements: Cleaning Day: Saturday, May 20th