

series Mission 2022

video

bible declaration

NO COMPARISON

we will continue our series Mission 2022
we will be talking about comparing ourselves to others
and how comparing removes our ability to love one another

comparison sayings

as lowdown as a snake in a wagon rut

as nervous as a cat in a roomful of rocking chairs

as painful as a centipede with sore feet

as cute as a bug's ear

fast as an alligator going through a handbag factory

so dumb that if he had another brain it would be lonesome

so poor he couldn't pay attention

that room is so small you have to go outside to change your mind

so slow he couldn't herd turtles

Finding Freedom From
COMPARISON

Galatians 5:1 niv

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. –

– has comparison ever controlled… your moods, peace, joy, hope, confidence, self worth?

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QUESTION – how many of you, and raise your hands (in this room and online)... are you on Facebook or Instagram, or tik tok?

OKAY – then I know you have a pretty good understanding of what comparison is all about.

– when Facebook started (on 2/2004, by a Harvard Sophomore) it was pretty much about keeping up with people that you like, but over the years it has kind of evolved to keeping up with people you have never met.

– before Facebook, Instagram and tik tok (as crazy and primitive as it sounds) you did not know so many of the details about the lives of others...

before social media I did not know about or see images of...

- How great your plate of food for dinner looked
- How adventurous you look on your latest outdoor conquest
- How great your new hair looks
- How adventurous you look on your latest outdoor conquest
- How great you can dance
- How bad you dance
- How good you can sing
- How bad you sing
- How good looking you are

all this is great if its to keep up with family and friends
before long we are looking at the lives of people we have never met,
comparing our lives to theirs and realize we will never measure up.

this isn't just about social media, this about how as a society we want to compare,
see how we measure up

LISTEN – one of the great, helpful things about social media It is - a constant reminder (and we all need reminding of this) that...

1. THERE IS NO WIN IN COMPARISON.

2. IT IS THE WRONG REFERENCE POINT

3. IT REMOVES OUR ABILITY TO LOVE OTHERS AND OURSELVES

Comparison is a major problem

* – the goal of this conversation is for you and I to stop living in the trap of comparison and begin pursuing Godly significance

* – Jesus did not put on flesh and come to this world and die on the Cross for you and to be enslaved by comparison.

2 Corinthians 10:12 niv

We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. When they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are not wise. –

1. THERE IS NO WIN IN COMPARISON

UNDERSTAND – for the most part comparison leads to either one of two destructive emotions

A FEELING OF PRIDE

You know – I am doing so much better, I am accomplishing so much more, I am so much further along than they are...

But remember Scripture warns us time and time again – that God hates and opposes pride and that pride leads to destruction.

A FEELING THAT YOU ARE DEFICIENT

You know - lacking, defective, insufficient, inadequate, not good enough, not as good as others... less than

NOW - let me give you (and myself) some advice...

Anything that makes you feel less than, you should remove it from your life.

Stop looking, stop watching, stop scrolling, stop comparing

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2) IT IS THE WRONG REFERENCE POINT

UNDERSTAND – God did not create you to become someone else, he created you to be you.

MGCC – when you stand before Him one day (and we all will)

God is not going to ask you why you were not more like.

But he may ask you why you were not more like the person He created you to be.

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. –

You are a unique work of art of Almighty God

And understand our God does not do carbon copies.

God wants you to be You!

COMPARE YOURSELF TO WHO YOU WERE YESTERDAY NOT TO WHO SOMEONE ELSE IS TODAY.

LOOK TO OTHER PEOPLE FOR INSPIRATION NOT IMITATION

YOU ARE NOT WHAT YOU THINK YOU ARE. THERE IS A GLORY TO YOUR LIFE THAT YOUR ENEMY FEARS, AND HE IS HELL-BENT ON DESTROYING THAT GLORY BEFORE YOU ACT ON IT... THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE IS THE STORY OF THE LONG AND BRUTAL ASSAULT ON YOUR HEART BY THE ONE WHO KNOWS WHO YOU COULD BE AND FEARS IT.

1 Samuel 18:6-8

When the men were returning home after David had killed the Philistine, the women came out from all the towns of Israel to meet King Saul with singing and dancing, with joyful songs and with timbrels and lyres. 7 As they danced, they sang: “Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands.” 8 Saul was very angry; this refrain displeased him greatly. “They have credited David with tens of thousands,” he thought, “but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?” –

YOU’LL NEVER EXPERIENCE GOD’S PURPOSE FOR YOUR LIFE WHILE DISTRACTED BY GOD’S PURPOSES FOR SOMEONE ELSE’S LIFE.

ECCLESIASTES 4:4

And I saw that all toil and all achievement spring from one person’s envy of another. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

- Everybody is competing with everybody else
- Everybody is measuring their success by comparing themselves to everybody else.
- Its endless
- There’s no finish line
- There no way you will ever be able to grab a hold of it
- There’s no peace
- There’s no contentment

CHASING AFTER THE WIND - IT’S LIKE AND UNQUENCHABLE AND INSATIABLE APPETITE...

WHEN YOU - chase the wind, when you allow comparison to be your master...

IT – just never ends, there is never any lasting satisfaction

IN FACT – you can't even enjoy the things that you have accomplished or the place where you are at.

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3. IT REMOVES OUR ABILITY TO LOVES OTHERS AND OURSELVES

when we compare we lose

we lose the ability to love

because envy, expectations and lies of the enemy

LOOK TO OTHER PEOPLE FOR INSPIRATION NOT IMITATION

CLOSING

WE ARE TO GROW IN LOVE AS CHURCH WE MUST LOVE

WE MUST HAVE NO COMPARISON OF EACH OTHER

POUR OUT LOVE TO EACH OTHER