

Summary

The sermon focuses on the destructive nature of comparison in our lives and how it affects our relationship with God and others. The pastor emphasizes that comparison always leads to either feelings of inferiority or superiority, neither of which is beneficial for spiritual growth. He uses examples from scripture, particularly Peter's comparison of himself to John in John 21, to illustrate how comparison can distract us from God's unique purpose for our lives.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we gather to discuss the impact of comparison in our lives, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to Your truth. Help us to see ourselves through Your eyes and to understand the unique purpose You have for each of us. Guide our discussion and help us to be honest with ourselves and each other. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What was your favorite toy as a child and why? Did you ever wish you had someone else's toy instead?

Key Verses

1. John 21:18-22
2. Proverbs 14:30
3. Ephesians 2:10
4. 2 Corinthians 10:12
5. Romans 1:21

Questions

1. In what areas of your life do you find yourself most often making comparisons?
2. In what areas of your life do you find yourself most often making comparisons?
3. How has comparison affected your relationship with God?
4. How has comparison affected your relationship with God?
5. What are some ways comparison has impacted your relationships with others?
6. What are some ways comparison has impacted your relationships with others?
7. Why do you think we tend to compare ourselves to others?
8. Why do you think we tend to compare ourselves to others?
9. How can focusing on God's unique purpose for our lives help us overcome comparison?

10. How can focusing on God's unique purpose for our lives help us overcome comparison?
11. What role does gratitude play in combating comparison?
12. What role does gratitude play in combating comparison?
13. How can we celebrate others' successes without feeling diminished ourselves?
14. How can we celebrate others' successes without feeling diminished ourselves?
15. What practical steps can we take to break free from the cycle of comparison?
16. What practical steps can we take to break free from the cycle of comparison?

Life Application

This week, whenever you catch yourself making comparisons, stop and write down three things you're grateful for about your own life and how God has uniquely blessed you. Then, intentionally pray blessings over the person you were comparing yourself to.

Key Takeaways

1. Comparison always leads to either feelings of inferiority or superiority, neither of which is healthy
2. Comparison always leads to either feelings of inferiority or superiority, neither of which is healthy
3. God has a unique purpose and plan for each person's life
4. God has a unique purpose and plan for each person's life
5. Magnifying the Lord and being thankful helps combat comparison
6. Magnifying the Lord and being thankful helps combat comparison
7. Trusting God's Word and His timing is essential for overcoming comparison
8. Trusting God's Word and His timing is essential for overcoming comparison
9. We need to celebrate others' successes while remaining confident in our own purpose
10. We need to celebrate others' successes while remaining confident in our own purpose

Ending Prayer

Lord, thank You for creating each of us uniquely and purposefully. Help us to see ourselves through Your eyes and to celebrate the gifts and calling You've given us. Free us from the bondage of comparison and help us to walk confidently in the purpose You have for our lives. Give us hearts of gratitude and celebration for others' successes. In Jesus' name, Amen.