Community: Where You and I Belong November 12, 2023

THE COMPARISON CORRUPTION

• Comparison <u>CORRUPTS</u> community.

For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind.

James 3:16 (NLT)

"Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

1 Samuel 16:7 (NLT)

Whatever Saul asked David to do, David did it successfully. So Saul made him a commander over the men of war, an appointment that was welcomed by the people and Saul's officers alike. ⁶ When the victorious Israelite army was returning home after David had killed the Philistine, women from all the towns of Israel came out to meet King Saul. They sang and danced for joy with tambourines and cymbals. ⁷ This was their song: "Saul has killed his thousands, and David his ten thousands!" ⁸ This made Saul very angry. "What's this?" he said. "They credit David with ten thousands and me with only thousands. Next they'll be making him their king!" ⁹ So from that time on Saul kept a jealous eye on David.

1 Samuel 18:5-9 (NLT)

When comparison corrupts me, my focus <u>DISTORTS</u> <u>ME</u>.

This made Saul very angry. "What's this?" he said. "They credit David with ten thousands and me with only thousands. Next they'll be making him their king!"

1 Samuel 18:8 (NLT)

- A distorted view of myself, creates <u>INSECURITY</u> in my community.
- And insecurity builds walls of FALSE SECURITY.

So from that time on Saul kept a jealous eye on David.

1 Samuel 18:9 (NLT)

A peaceful heart leads to a healthy body; jealousy is like cancer in the bones.

Proverbs 14:30 (NLT)

Preventing the Comparison Corruption:

• Comparison corrupts community but <u>CELEBRATION CREATES</u> community.

Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Romans 12:15 (NLT)

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NLT)