

Life Group Discussion Guide

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

I QUIT COMPARING

Genesis 4:3-8 and John 3:26-30

April 24, 2016



INTRODUCTION

Instead of focusing on who you are and what God might very well have in store for you, we are trained and expected to compare ourselves to others. The disciples approached life the same way. This comparison approach to life is one riddled with pain and disappointment. It happened to the first family on earth and it happened within the family that Jesus was creating through His disciples. Comparing is not God's approach to life.

DISCUSSION STARTER

1. Define success. How do you measure it in your own life?
2. Why do you think we compare ourselves to others?
3. Recall a time when you compared yourself to another person. What was the comparison and what was the result of your thoughts?

EVALUATE IT

1. Pick a person to read Genesis 4:3-8. Compare the offering each of the brothers brought. Why was God's response to the offerings different? Describe Cain's reaction and consider what thoughts might have been going through his mind.
2. Genesis 4:6 - Why is Cain so angry? Who is Cain really angry toward? Why is he so angry toward Abel?
3. Read John 3:26-30. What is the comparison John's disciples are making? Contrast this to the comparison John makes. What is the difference?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. Who do you compare yourself to?
2. What gifts has God given to you?
3. How can you pray specifically this week that God would allow that person to be amazingly successful this week?

ILLUSTRATION

"Everyone is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid." - Albert Einstein

Neal Plantinga wrote a wonderful book several years ago called A Breviary of Sin. He tells the story of these two young women in Iowa, Cindy and Sonya. They were both lovely. They would sometimes compete in beauty pageants. Cindy was Miss Harvest Queen and Sonya was homecoming queen. They both liked the same guy, a guy named Jim. Jim ultimately rejected Cindy and married Sonya, and it just festered. It killed Cindy. She couldn't stand to think of her rival getting what she wanted and being happy. She took a leather belt, and one night Miss Harvest Queen strangled the homecoming queen and the whole town was left devastated. - Neal Plantinga, A Breviary of Sin



Interested in joining or starting a Life Group?
Contact our Life Groups Minister.

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