



THE COMPARISON TRAP Part 2: Looking Around

INTRODUCTION

God is the creator of the universe. He's big and smart and powerful. He orchestrates time and everything that happens in it. And he has told us to call him. . .Dad? In this message, Andy Stanley unpacks what being part of God's family can mean for our self-assurance. God's opinion of us may provide something we haven't yet found comparing ourselves to others.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Television and the Internet are full of stories of rich, famous, and talented people who self-destruct in one way or another. Why are we surprised and fascinated by these stories?
2. Are you currently chasing after something—a goal, job, relationship, or possession—that you hope will give you peace and contentment? Explain.
3. In the sermon, Andy says that just like a great parent doesn't compare his or her child to another child, God doesn't compare us to other people. Is it difficult to believe that God loves you like that? Why?
4. When you were a child, how did you respond to your parents' rules? How has your perspective on the purpose of their rules changed now that you're grown?
5. Read Galatians 4:4-7. When you pray, do you refer to God as "Father"? If you do, how does that affect the way you relate to God? If you don't, why don't you?
6. What is one thing you can do this week to allow God's opinion of you shape who you are and the choices you make?

MOVING FORWARD

Who or what are you going to use as your reference point to tell you you're okay? Take your cue about you from the One who made you, loves you, and redeemed you.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."

Galatians 4:6