

IT CAME FROM WITHIN!

It Came from Within 3 :: *That Hideous Thing* :: Andy Stanley

INTRODUCTION

It sneaks up on you before you even know it's there. Rising up out of the shadows, its goal is to isolate you from others. And once it gets its fangs into you, it infects you with the thirst for what others have. When this creature called jealousy makes its home in your heart it even causes you to rejoice when others fail. Learn the truth about jealousy and how to combat this creature that *comes from within*.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When you were growing up, were you jealous of anyone? (a cheerleader, an athlete, a smart kid)
2. What elicits a sense of envy in you now? (money, possessions, position, appearance)
3. How can jealousy affect your relationships?
4. Read 1 Chronicles 29:11-14. When you are jealous of others, you are essentially saying that you have a problem with how God has distributed wealth and honor and power. After all, why did He give it to them and not to you? When you realize this, how does the truth that God distributes things as He sees fit impact the way you look at what God has given to others? How does this impact the way you look at what God has given you?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. Why is jealousy something you need to root out of your heart?
6. Combating jealousy begins with going directly to the source—which in this case is God. How does it make you feel to admit your dissatisfaction with God?

7. How does openly celebrating someone you are envious of combat jealousy?

8. What can you begin to do this week to guard your heart from jealousy?

THINK ABOUT IT

How are things in your heart? Are you jealous of someone? Do you need to go to him or her and confess anything?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

How can you openly celebrate someone you are envious of this week?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 1 Corinthians 13:4

