

### Taking it Home

- Examine yourself. Do you look at others and wish you had what they had? Do you feel in some way you've been cheated by God by not having: more wealth; better looks; better skills; better talents; better job; better spouse; better material possession, etc? These are real feelings. What do you do with these feelings? Read Psalm 27:7; Psalm 143:10-11; Philippians 4:6-8 and interpret. Can a troubled heart find peace & solace in God's throne room?
- Envy is a seedbed for anger. Anger is the manifestation/ expression of anger. (1 Sam 18:7-8). Is this accurate? Have you ever been angry against someone because of envy?
- How Do I deal with envy? Matthew 22:37-39 - Love God & Love your Neighbor – Deal with your envy by looking to God. Make the decision to honor people for who they are, (others centered), because you appreciate who God made you to be (love yourself soberly).

### Related Resources

- *Seven : The Deadly Sins and The Beatitudes* by Jeff Cook
- *The Search for Significance* by Robert S. McGee

For a restatement of Pastor Matthew's sermon points, visit [pastormatthew.net](http://pastormatthew.net) and click on the "write this down" tab.

7 Deadly Sins  
Envy  
1 Samuel 18

Dr. Matthew R. St. John  
Bethel Church  
September 26, 2010

### Envy

Notes:

For more information about Growth Groups, Growth Group homework, and a podcast of sermons with homework, visit [www.bethelc.com](http://www.bethelc.com)

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of September 26, 2010

1 Samuel 18

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**Quick Review:** David's popularity with the Israelites soared because of David's fearlessness as a mighty warrior. David, being a diligent servant of King Saul should have been envious of Saul, who had everything, yet it was Saul who envied David. Saul is envious of David's reputation. David is Saul's most successful general yet Saul spends the rest of his life trying to destroy David.

## My Story

- Recall a time when you witnessed your children or other children playing together with toys. What were some of the traits the children displayed as they battled over the possession of certain toys?
- Has there ever been a time in your life when your parents or grandparents gave something special to one of your siblings and not you? Or, maybe your parents or grandparents did something special with one of your siblings but not with you? How did that make you feel?
- Share from your experiences about someone you know/knew whose life was consumed with envy and jealousy. Does this story have a good ending, or tragic results? Share.

## Growing Deeper

- These are definitions of **Envy**: *"God has made my life inadequate. Someone else's life is better. I'm lacking something. Someone else has what I don't have and it's not fair. God, I deserve more or, I deserve better."* If you were God what would you think about a person who behaves or thinks like this? (Cf. Romans 9:20-21).
- What did Pastor Matthew say were the "Three Presumptions of **Envy**?"
- Compare King Saul's envy of David in 1 Samuel 18:5-12 and the Pharisees **envy** of Jesus in Matthew 27:18. What comparisons are clearly evident in these two sets of passages?
- In Psalm 73:1-14, the writer of this Psalm, Asaph describes his **envy** of those who are not believers. READ Psalm 73:1-14 and write down a list of why Asaph is envious of the wicked. Now, read Psalm 73:16-28 and make a list of how Asaph overcame his **envy** and anger.
- READ 1 Samuel 18:8-12. There is an obvious digression from the sin of **envy** to more sins. Make a list of the other sins that were created by King Saul's **envy**.
- Both men and women are guilty of the sin of **envy**. Do men deal with **envy** differently than women do? Describe the differences or similarities.