



## Teaching Notes: Ray Davis

August 8, 2010

### WISDOM

(Competent In Life's Realities)

# desert breeze community church

## "ENVY"

Very basic to the development of wisdom is the ability to understand, manage and redirect the thoughts, feelings and actions that flow from our heart (Prov. 4:23). We have looked at our sexuality, anger and now we look at envy.

Proverbs 3:31-32; 14:30; 23:17-18

### WHAT IS ENVY?

Proverbs 3:31-32 *Do not envy a violent man or choose any of his ways,<sup>32</sup> for the LORD detests a perverse man but takes the upright into his confidence.*

- Envy is bitter desire for someone else's life.
- Envy is a symptom of the sinful human tendency to evaluate one's well-being in comparison with others. (1 Cor. 4:7; 2 Cor. 10:12-13)
- Envy is rejoicing when others weep and weeping when others rejoice. (The opposite of Rom. 12:15)
- Envy is a revelation of what I value most. Vv31-32 (Violent = Heb. Wrong, cruelty, injustice. Perverse = Heb. Wicked, hostile to God.) v32 "...but takes the upright into his confidence." Ps. 37/73
- Envy is a form of unbelief. (John 6:35; Rom. 1:25)

### WHAT'S WRONG WITH ENVY?

*Proverbs 14:30 A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones.*

- It depletes your life of love, joy, peace... (Gal.5:16-26)
- It destroys your ability to enjoy what you have. (Discontentment Phil. 4:11-13)

- It discourages you from being used by God for who you are. (Rom. 12:3-8)
- It disorders your loves (values). (Lk16:15; Matt6:19-24)

### WHERE DO I TAKE MY ENVY?

Pro. 23:17-18 *Let not your heart envy sinners, but continue in the fear of the LORD all the day.<sup>18</sup> Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off.*

- Butt in on your heart's bitter desire (envy). V17 Let not your heart...
- Battle your bitter desire (envy) with the fear of the Lord. V17 Fear of the Lord = Life transforming joyful awe and wonder in the beauty, glory and splendor of who God is and what He has done. This is worship! Ps. 37/73
- Build your arsenal of weapons on the promises of God. v18; Matt. 4:1-11; Ps. 1, 16, 84, 103

*Psalm 73:25 Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth I desire besides you.*

August 15	"Pride"	Pro. 16:18-19
August 22	"Self-control"	Pro. 25:28
August 29	"Money Matters"	Pro. 10:4-5
Sept. 5	"Two Great Tests"	Pro. 10:16

Sept. 12 Connection Party Weekend

### Wisdom: Competent in Relationships. (Six week small group series)

Sept. 19	"High Maintenance People"	Pro.1:22,32-33
Sept. 26	"Fixing a Broken Heart"	Pro. 12:25
Oct. 3	"Communication"	Pro. 12:18
Oct. 10	"Friendships"	Pro. 17:17
Oct. 17	"Repairing Relationships"	Pro. 10:18
Oct. 24	"Family"	Pro. 24:3-4



# Growing

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1) Very basic to the development of wisdom is the ability to understand, manage and redirect the deep thoughts and feelings of our heart (Pro. 4:23). Though it isn't something that people are quick to admit how prevalent do you think envy is in our society today?

2) Read Proverbs 3:31-32. What is the contrast being made in these verses? How would you define envy? How is envy a symptom of comparisons? How are the signs of envy the opposite of Rom. 12:15?

3) How is envy a revelation of what I value most? How is envy a form of unbelief? Read Proverbs 14:30. What are the four things from this study wrong with envy? What are disordered loves (values) and how do they relate to envy?

4) Read Proverbs 23:17-18. What is the opposite of envy according to these verses? What does it mean to butt in on your hearts bitter desire (envy)? What is the fear of the Lord and how does it help us to battle envy?

5) What does it mean to build your arsenal of weapons on the promises of God & how will that help you to defeat envy? We envy people who have what we value the most. What areas in your life do you struggle with envy? What happened to the Psalmist for him to overcome his envy in Ps. 73 (Note: vv17 & 25)? Pray that you'll have this same experience?