

# THE ENVY EFFECT

## Ghosts of Christmas Past - Part 2

Pastor Ken Ritz \* December 10, 2017 \* New Life Vineyard

### **Envy: Resenting God's goodness to others and ignoring God's goodness to me**

*For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.*

James 3:16-17

### **Matthew 20 Jesus' Story of the Vineyard Workers**

#### **1. Stop \_\_\_\_\_ yourself to others**

*"The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more.*

Matthew 29:9

#### **2. Start \_\_\_\_\_ God's Grace to Others**

*So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner...*

*"But he answered... are you envious because I am generous?"*

Matthew 20:10-15

*Rejoice with those who rejoice, and mourn with those who mourn!*

Romans 12:15

#### **3. Be grateful for \_\_\_\_\_**

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

Proverbs 14:30

*Isn't everything you have and everything you are sheer gifts from God? So what's the point of all this comparing and competing? You already have all you need!*

1 Corinthians 4:7-8 Msg

#### **4. Trust God when \_\_\_\_\_**

##### The Workers

*'These who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.'*

Matthew 20:12

##### The Owner

*'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'*

Matthew 20:13-15

##### The Owner

*Take your pay and go!*

Matthew 20:14

##### Jesus

*"So those who are last now will be first then, and those who are first will be last..."*

*...Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant.*

Matthew 20:16,26 NLT