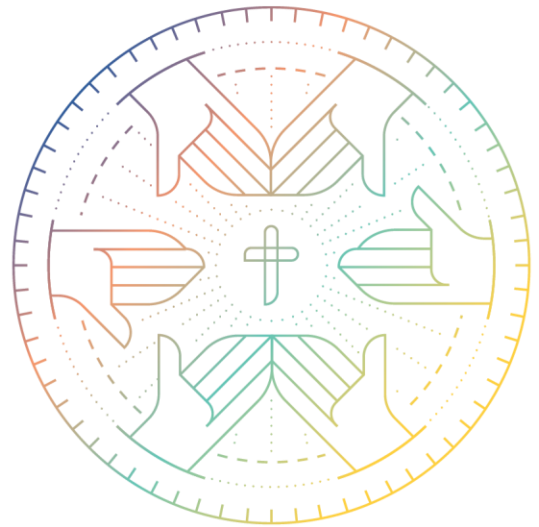


Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

What characteristic do you think is most important for a close friend to have?

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

Anchor Verse: 1 Corinthians 13:1-4

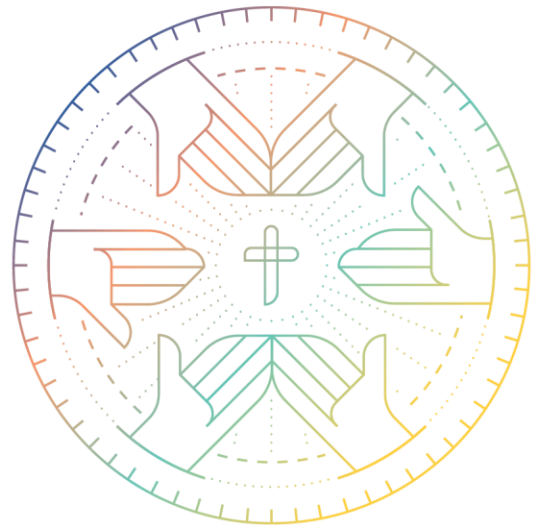
Paul continues his instruction to the Corinthian church looking at two things love is not, envious or boastful. We will see that envy is an attitude that leads to the action of boastfulness, and this plays out in our lives as self-absorption, resentfulness, and comparison.

INTO THE WORD (25 MINUTES)

1. Read Proverbs 14:30 and James 3:14-16. Envy is defined as boiling with jealousy or jealousy on steroids. We see envy show up in our lives in three main ways. They are:
 - a. Self-absorption or living for self
 - b. Resentment or withholding of love
 - c. Comparison or viewing the world as more than or less than meWhich way or ways do you see envy pop up in your life?
2. Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, Galatians 6:2, and James 5:16. Boasting is defined as the idea of not needing others. Throughout scripture, we see an emphasis placed on the importance of needing others in our lives. How do you see envy and boasting, or the attitude of not needing others, creep into your life or the lives of your friends?
3. Read Romans 12. Weeding out envy in our lives is an active process that takes intentional action, not to let it creep into our lives. What sticks out from this passage?

Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



APPLICATION (25 MINUTES)

1. Read James 4:1-3. One of the ways envy creeps into our lives is through being self-absorbed. The fruit of a Self-absorbed life is the self-destruction or shallowness of relationships. Do you struggle with self-absorption, and in what ways can you actively fight against the urge to make things focused on you?
2. Read Philippians 2:3-4 and Galatians 5:13-15. We can combat envy in our lives by
 - a. Finding contentment
 - b. Rejoicing when others are blessed
 - c. Focusing on the needs of othersWhat practical steps can you take this week to implement these in your life?

PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Dear heavenly Father,

May we not allow envy and boastfulness to creep into our lives. Help us to get rid of any jealousy or selfish ambition in our hearts but instead, help us to seek the best in others and cultivate a heart of gratitude and contentment. May people know us by our love. In Your holy and excellent name, we pray, amen.