

Sunday, January 29, 2017 Dave Michel Stepping Stones Community Church

Four main areas we compare: <u>Possessions</u>, <u>Appearance</u>, <u>Performance</u>, <u>Circumstances</u>

## **Quitting Comparing**

- 1. What's wrong with comparing?
  - Comparison is the <u>death</u> of <u>contentment</u>
  - Comparison makes us <u>prideful</u>
  - > Comparison makes us resentful

Oh, don't worry; we wouldn't dare say that we are as wonderful as these other men who tell you how important they are! But they are only comparing themselves with each other, using themselves as the standard of measurement. How ignorant!

2 Corinthians 10:12 NLT

<sup>11</sup> The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: 'I thank you, God, that I am not like other people—cheaters, sinners, adulterers. I'm certainly not like that tax collector!<sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.'

Luke 18:11-12 NLT

<sup>6</sup> When the victorious Israelite army was returning home after David had killed the Philistine, women from all the towns of Israel came out to meet King Saul. They sang and danced for joy with tambourines and cymbals. <sup>7</sup> This was their song: "Saul has killed his thousands, and David his ten thousands!" <sup>8</sup> This made Saul very angry. "What's this?" he said. "They credit David with ten thousands and me with only thousands. Next they'll be making him their king!" <sup>9</sup> So from that time on Saul kept a jealous eye on David. **1 Samuel 18:6-9** NLT

## 2. Comparing => Resenting <u>God's goodness</u> in others' lives while ignoring God's blessing in my own

- 3. How to quit comparing
  - > Know what you have
  - > Know who you are

11 I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:11-13 NIV

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10 NIV

Next Steps:
☐ My struggle with comparing is:
☐ Commit to find contentment with what I have and the blessings God has given to me
☐ As I work to quit comparing, I will focus on who God made me to be:
☐ Invite someone to Football Sunday (Next Sunday)