

What About Him? The Trap of Comparison

John 21:20-22



What About Him?

◆ **John 21:20-22** - 20 Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper and had said, “Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?” 21 When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, “Lord, what about this man?” 22 Jesus said to him, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!”

What About Him? – The 4 Traps of Comparison

1. Takes Your Focus Off Your Mission and Ministry
2. Minimize Our Skills, Abilities, and Gifts
3. Creates Doubt
4. Opens Your Heart to Bitterness, Anger, and Arrogance

Takes Your Focus Off Your
Mission and Ministry

Peter's Ministry and Mission

◆ **Matthew 16:18-19** - 18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

Focus on Following Jesus

◆ **John 21:22** - 22 Jesus said to him, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!

Follow Me



Stop Comparing Yourself to Others

- ◆ **Isaiah 2:22** - Stop regarding man in whose nostrils is breath, for of what account is he?
- ◆ **Galatians 1:10** - 10 For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Look and Focus on Jesus

- ◆ **Hebrews 12:2** - 2 ...looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.
- ◆ **Proverbs 4:25** - Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you.

Minimize Your Gifts

The Parable of the Talents

◆ **Matthew 25:14-15** - 14 “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. 15 To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, **to each according to his ability.** Then he went away.

Reasons People Minimize Their Talents

1. Fear
2. Feeling Insignificant
3. Lazy
4. Procrastination

Use Your Talents

- ◆ **Colossians 3:23-24** - 23 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

Use Your Talents

- ◆ **1 Peter 4:10-11** - 10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: 11 whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.
- ◆ **Romans 12:6-8** - 6 Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; 7 if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; 8 the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Creates Doubt



**Let Your Faith
Roar So Loud
That You Can't
Hear What
Doubt is
Saying!**

See the Ways God is Blessing Your Life

- ◆ **Philippians 4:19** - 19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.
- ◆ **Romans 8:38-39** - 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Envy – The Root of the Problem

- ◆ **Psalm 73:1-3** - Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. 2 But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped. 3 For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
- ◆ **Psalm 73:13** - 13 All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence.

How to Overcome It's Not Fair - Contentment

◆ **Philippians 4:11-13** - 11 Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. 12 I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. 13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Opens Your Heart to Bitterness,
Anger, and Arrogance

Wisdom From Above

- ◆ **James 3:14-17** - 14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. 15 This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. 17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.