



Envy's Dirty Little Secrets

Envy: The resentful and even hateful dislike of the good fortune or blessing of another.

Understanding envy's dirty little secrets:

1. Envy reveals spiritual immaturity.

1 Corinthians 3:1-3 (ESV)

But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ² I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ³ for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way?

- Envy reveals a self-centered life!

Galatians 5:19-20 (NIV)

The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions

2. Envy will rot your soul.

Proverbs 14:30 (HCSB)

A tranquil heart is life to the body, but jealousy is rottenness to the bones.

Ecclesiastes 4:4 (NIV)

And I saw that all toil and all achievement spring from one person's envy of another. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

- There is never a win in the comparison game.

3. Envy is an organizational cancer.

- Envy is a threat because it causes tension and a loss of focus.
- When you fuel envy, you are working for the enemy!

James 3:14–16 (NIV)

But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

4. Envy says "God, you made a mistake with my lot in life."

Psalms 139:14 (NIV)

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Psalms 75:7 (NIV)

It is God who judges: He brings one down, he exalts another.