



THE ROAR OF JEALOUSY
GENESIS 26:12-17

Romans 12:15 NIV Rejoice with those who rejoice;
mourn with those who mourn.

- One sign of jealousy is when it's easier to show sympathy and "weep with those who weep" than it is to exhibit joy and "rejoice with those who rejoice."

Romans 12:15 NIV Rejoice with those who rejoice;
mourn with those who mourn.

- Jealous shows itself in a couple of basic ways
 - The first type is the feeling of being threatened by a rival in a romantic relationship or losing something of value to another person which happens to be yours already.

Romans 12:15 NIV Rejoice with those who rejoice;
mourn with those who mourn.

- Jealous shows itself in a couple of basic ways
 - The second is type of jealousy is more like Envy.
 - Envy is a hatred/bitterness towards another person for having an advantage that YOU don't have.

**Romans 12:15 NIV Rejoice with those who rejoice;
mourn with those who mourn.**

- Jealous shows itself in a couple of basic ways
- For instance, envious/jealous behavior such as a friend has a nice new car and instead of being truly happy for them
 - you badmouth them or the car or make up something ridiculous because YOU can't afford it yourself.

Jealous and Envy is almost used interchangeably in scripture

- **Genesis 4:4b-5 NIV** The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering, 5 but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.
 - Here you see the emotion behind jealousy, anger
 - Anger is the fuel and jealousy is the response

The Bible has a lot to say about jealousy and envy

- **Proverbs 27:4 ESV** Wrath is cruel, anger is overwhelming, but who can stand before jealousy?
- **Proverbs 14:30 ESV** A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh, but envy makes the bones rot.
- **James 3:16 ESV** For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

The Bible has a lot to say about jealousy and envy

- Jealousy is a sin that will worm its way into your heart and mind, then once there, will burn its way out
- **Genesis 22:12-17**

Most understand this piece of their character, but they think they keep it concealed

- Sense it coming to the surface they quickly grasp it and put on a fake smile
- Jealousy works its way inward, spoiling all innocence and trust and virtue

Most understand this piece of their character, but they think they keep it concealed

- **James 4:2-3 NLT** 2 You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet you don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it. 3 And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.

Most understand this piece of their character, but they think they keep it concealed

- **2nd Corinthians 3:3 NLT** for you are still controlled by your sinful nature. You are jealous of one another and quarrel with each other. Doesn't that prove you are controlled by your sinful nature? Aren't you living like people of the world?

Jealousy tends to run in circles

- We are generally not going to be jealous about someone in New York
- It is normally located in a circle around you and there are a few ways it travels within that circle

Jealousy is among the circles of those steeped in materialism

- They have built their world around things they have or desire

Jealousy is among the circles of those steeped in materialism

- Why did the Philistines envy Isaac?
 - He had stuff and plenty of it
 - They could not handle the amount of stuff Isaac had
 - The Philistines had all they needed but were not satisfied
 - Their eye was not on the treasure they possessed, but on the one someone else possesses

Jealousy is among the circles of those steeped in materialism

- David with Bathsheba – David coveted the one sheep someone else had
- We need to be careful that we do not condemn wealth
- There are those God has blessed and they have kept every penny in spiritual perspective

Jealousy is often found in positions of power

- **Numbers 16:1-3 NTL** One day Korah son of Izhar, a descendant of Kohath son of Levi, conspired with Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, and On son of Peleth, from the tribe of Reuben. 2 They incited a rebellion against Moses, along with 250 other leaders of the community, all prominent members of the assembly.

Jealousy is often found in positions of power

- **Numbers 16:1-3 NLT** 3 They united against Moses and Aaron and said, “You have gone too far! The whole community of Israel has been set apart by the Lord, and he is with all of us. What right do you have to act as though you are greater than the rest of the Lord’s people?”
- **Psalms 106:16 NIV** In the camp they grew envious of Moses and of Aaron, who was consecrated to the Lord.

Jealousy is often found in positions of power

- Even among the disciples walking with Jesus there was a dispute about who was the greatest and sit on Jesus' right and left
- You will find that if you follow the power
 - Office politics, Power struggles, Power grabs

Jealousy is often found in positions of power

- This division envies that division, This church member envies that one and so forth
- As soon as a gifted worker becomes consumed, the envy spreads into those around him and in time will the entire group

Jealously is prominent in performance circles

- It is rare to hear one performer of the same category and time, praise another without gritted teeth
- As soon as David slew Goliath the song of praise rang out and Saul was slain with jealousy
- Jealousy took so much room in Saul's heart there was not room for the Spirit of God, and it left him

Jealously is prominent in performance circles

- When the Devil goes to church, he knows what buttons to push, how to get control of your mind as you sit in the pew
- It tears at the body of Christ and the only antidote is heaping helpings of love and grace

Jealously travels well in professional circles

- **Philippians 1:15-16 NLT** 15 It's true that some are preaching out of jealousy and rivalry. But others preach about Christ with pure motives. 16 They preach because they love me, for they know I have been appointed to defend the Good News.
- They were setting up their own pulpits of recognition
- Is there envy or jealousy in you over salary, position, recognition, kids...?

Jealousy travels best in personal circles

- Cain and Abel, Jacob and Esau, Joseph and all his brothers
- **Luke 15:28-30 NIV** 28 “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders

Jealousy travels best in personal circles

- **Luke 15:28-30 NIV** Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’
 - Why shouldn't I have the robe, ring and party

Jealousy travels best in personal circles

- Why is there judging within a family, such competition that it stretches the fabric of the family, why not love and acceptance and joy
 - More love less judging

Jealousy travels best in personal circles

- Jealously destroys others, but it also destroys us and those we love
- Envy shoots at others and wounds themselves
- Jealousy runs in circles, and it always seems to come back around to us

So how can we face our jealousy and get its tentacles unwrapped from us?

- **Declare our jealousy/envy a sin**
 - Avoid thinking of it as a personality disorder or a genetic trait
 - It is not your social upbringing
 - The Bible never points to any of those factors to discuss jealousy

Declare our jealousy/envy a sin

- **Galatians 5:50 NIV** contains the list of; jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions
 - Jealousy can cause each of those following it
- **Romans 1:29 NIV** contains the list of; They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice.
- **Matthew 27:18 NLT** (He knew very well that the religious leaders had arrested Jesus out of envy.)

Remember your rival in prayer

- **Luke 9:54 54 NIV** When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, “Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?”
- You can't hold onto a jealous grudge when the eye of the Lord is upon you

Remember your rival in prayer

- God rewards those who act upon the feelings we intend to have
- Pray for them, even if your teeth and fists are clenched

Reaffirm God's goodness to you

- Our resentment implies an assumption that God hasn't given us everything we need
- When we detect jealousy, it is time for a blessing inventory
- What do you truly lack that God has not given you?
- What abundant blessing has He showered upon you that you actually deserve?

Reaffirm God's goodness to you

- Focus on the grace of God's patience with our countless imperfections
- Can you really be envious in light of that?
- Someone said, "Gratitude transforms attitude."

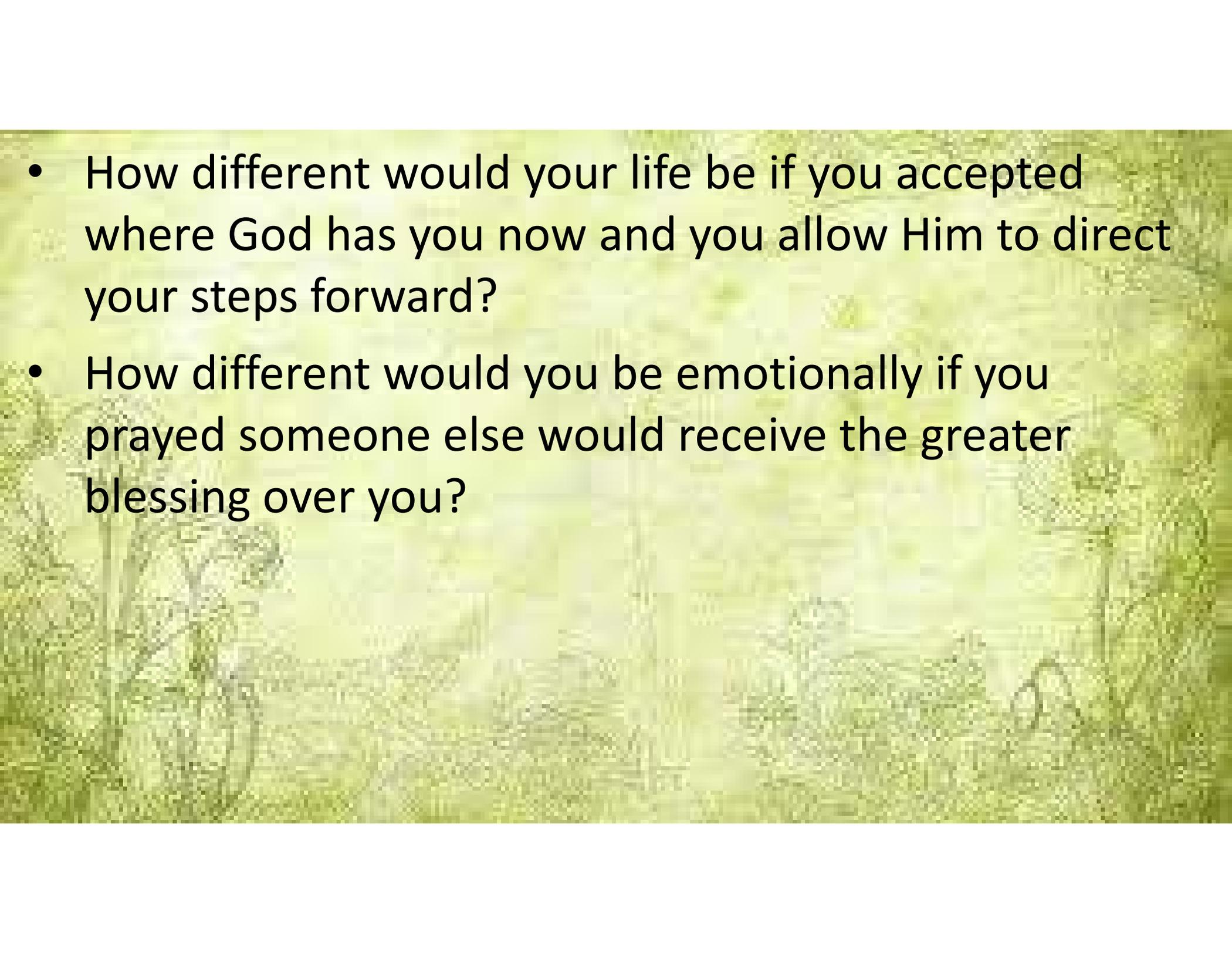
Rekindle God's love in your heart

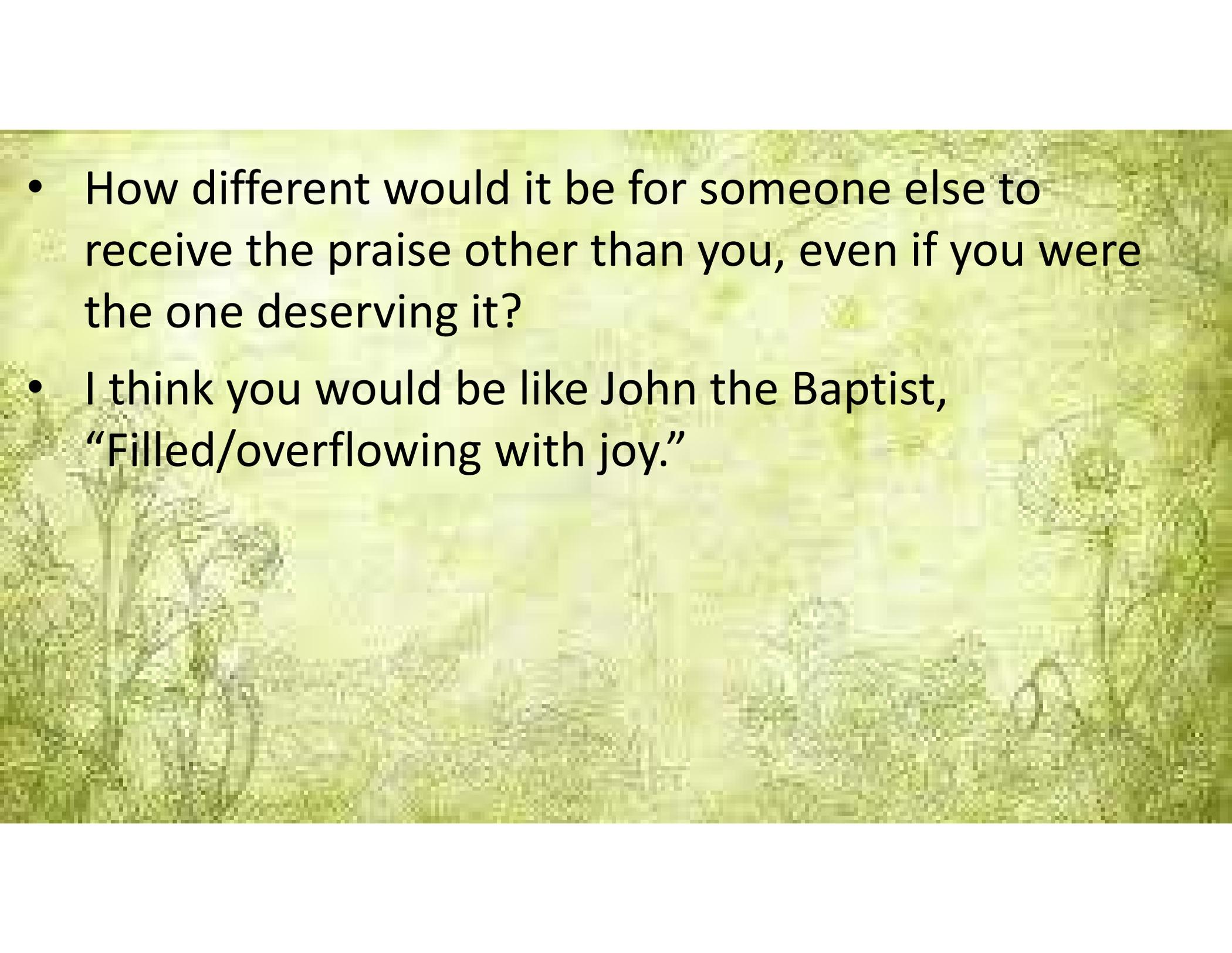
- **1st Corinthians 13:4-7 NIV** 4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.
 - Envy/Jealousy cannot stand to be in the presence of each other

Rekindle God's love in your heart

- What if our love has been reduced to ashes? How do you rekindle it?
- Very simply through prayer, scripture and resilience
- Understanding who we are in Christ Jesus
- Understanding the love Christ has for us
- Seeing others through the eyes of Christ
- Day by day, prayer by prayer, those emotions will begin to loosen their grip

John 3:27-30 NLT 27 John replied, “No one can receive anything unless God gives it from heaven. 28 You yourselves know how plainly I told you, ‘I am not the Messiah. I am only here to prepare the way for him.’ 29 It is the bridegroom who marries the bride, and the bridegroom’s friend is simply glad to stand with him and hear his vows. Therefore, I am filled with joy at his success. 30 He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less.

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- How different would your life be if you accepted where God has you now and you allow Him to direct your steps forward?
 - How different would you be emotionally if you prayed someone else would receive the greater blessing over you?

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- How different would it be for someone else to receive the praise other than you, even if you were the one deserving it?
 - I think you would be like John the Baptist, “Filled/overflowing with joy.”



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