



Insecurity: The Root of Jealousy

"If you are wise and understand God's ways, prove it by living an honorable life, doing good works with the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don't cover up the truth with boasting and lying. For jealousy and selfishness are not God's kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic. For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind." James 3:13-16 NLT

Jeanine and I have been studying the book of James for our devotions each morning. This morning we looked at the issue of jealousy in the passage above and it stirred up some thoughts of: how have I been jealous over the years and where did it come from? I realized that I have struggled with this issue, but covered it up, disguising it, believing it was, as Beth Moore calls it, "discernment!" I wonder, is it really wanting something I can't have? I love what Beth Moore says, "Jealousy takes root in the soil of insecurity." Now, that statement really gets my wheels spinning! Growing up on the wrong side of the tracks in the early 50's, not realizing my family was poor, no running water until age five, mom giving us a bath in a metal tub, having an outhouse until age seven. Fruitland Addition was where I grew up until age 11. It was nor-



mal to me. I didn't know any different. I had a lot of freedom to run in our neighborhood. Small community, everyone knew everyone. Almost all my relatives lived within blocks of each other, so I couldn't get into too much trouble without them knowing. But, where were the boundaries? We were raised pretty much by our grandmother because both mom and dad worked full time. There

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were times, the four kids all under age 11, that we were left alone. And, when they were around, there wasn't much personal attention or affirmation a boy needs. Outwardly, I was a happy child, but unknown to everyone including myself until much later in life, I had a deep well of insecurity.

Then we moved into the city as I was entering adolescence, a new home, new surroundings, new school, and any security I had, began to disappear. That's when, I believe, jealousy began to creep into my life. Since I felt so insecure, I felt I needed what others had: a new bike like the other kids, new clothes, new hair style, - I wanted to be like my friends, have what they had, be popular, do anything to get attention, to be liked by the girls, have a fast car, etc. I thought they would fill that insecure place in my heart. It's only the grace of God I didn't end up in jail. Well, I did sit with the Judge for

Mission

Freedom Ministries of the Quad Cities exists to help couples and individuals experience freedom in Christ through identifying and resolving spiritual and emotional conflicts thus strengthening, empowering and helping fulfill their relationship with Jesus Christ and others.

HELPING YOUR SMALL GROUP OR CHURCH

Wayne and Jeanine are available for :

- ◆ Retreats: Intro to Emotional Issues
- ◆ Seminars: Spiritual Issues
- ◆ Six week SS Class on Forgiveness
- ◆ Occult Issues; Dating, Moral Failure

three Saturdays for driving my dad's car without a license. OK, so now I'm an adult. I've learned a lot since then. But, I'm still vulnerable to that old jealousy trying to get it's claws into my life.

James 1:18 says, "He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession."

When jealousy raises it's ugly head I need to remember where my true security lies... in the Lord Jesus Christ, who says I belong to him! He will never fail me and always provides what I truly need.



Prayer and Praise

Praise

- ◆ For God's healing and tenderizing hearts so they can give and receive love.
- ◆ For our faithful God who reaches into hearts and replaces the enemy's lies with God's truth.

Prayer

- ◆ For our schedule to be in God's timing even when couples have to wait months to get in.
- ◆ For the CFTH Retreat this March, that God will fill the counselors with His strength, love, patience and compassion for hurting people.

Thank You

Thank you, Wayne and Jeanine, for taking care of other people's happiness. It takes a generous spirit like yours. We have told others of the healing God has done for us individually and in our marriage.

2018 Annual Report

Praise God for His provision for FMQC. We are so grateful: to those who help with our prayer letter, administration, training, to the many churches and individuals who support us prayerfully and financially, and to the host of prayer warriors who make this ministry possible.

We have been blessed with a Board of Directors who serve sacrificially: Carol Jacks, our secretary, Jim Brubaker, our chairman, and Dave Brummitt, our treasurer. We are so grateful for their commitment to this ministry.

We continue to use Augustana Web Guild to design and manage the web site.

Our FMQC counseling office has been at Homewood EFC for over two years now and 2018 saw God's gracious hand continue to provide for us! Support giving increased to the point where we even have a small cushion in our checking account at the beginning of the year. Praise God. "And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:19

Speaking/Ministry/Conferences:

- Attended monthly area EFC Ministerials
- QCAE lunch March 15
- Attended the CFTH Retreat March 17-22
- Grace Missions Fair April 15
- CFTH Board Meeting May 24
- Preach at Grace EFC July 22
- CFTH Board Meeting Sept. 11
- Great Lakes District Conference Oct. 8,9
- Taught/MC'd CFTH Annual Conf. Goshen, Ind. November 2-8

We met with 24 couples/individuals for three/four day intensive marriage & individual counseling sessions and 30 phone or 1½ hour sessions.

If you no longer want to receive the newsletter, please contact us. Our email address is: freedomministries@att.net or write to: Freedom Ministries, P.O. Box 953, Moline, IL 61266-0953