

“AT THE HEART OF ENVY”

Introduction: “Welcome to Club Envy!”

Genesis 37:3 (NLT) “Jacob loved Joseph more than any of his other children because Joseph had been born to him in his old age. So one day Jacob had a special gift made for Joseph—a beautiful robe.”

- Jacob needs a _____! (Favoritism)
- Joseph receives a _____!
- Joseph wore the robe to communicate: _____!
- Nugget #1: Envy starts with a legitimate _____.

Genesis 37:4 (NLT) “But his brothers hated Joseph because their father loved him more than the rest of them. They couldn’t say a kind word to him.”

- Nugget # 2: Envy distracts you from real _____.
- Nugget # 3: Envy clouds your _____.

Genesis 37: 5-8 (NLT) “One night Joseph had a dream, and when he told his brothers about it, they hated him more than ever. ⁶ “Listen to this dream,” he said. ⁷ “We were out in the field, tying up bundles of grain. Suddenly my bundle stood up, and your bundles all gathered around and bowed low before mine!”

- Nugget # 4: Envy leads to _____.

Genesis 37: 18 (NLT) “When Joseph’s brothers saw him coming, they recognized him in the distance. As he approached, they made plans to kill him.

- Nugget # 5: Envy doesn’t need the total _____.

Genesis 37: 19 (NLT) ⁹ ‘Here comes the dreamer!’ they said.”

- Nugget # 6: Envy _____ people.

Genesis 37: 23,28 (NLT) “So when Joseph arrived, his brothers ripped off the beautiful robe he was wearing. So when the Ishmaelites, who were Midianite traders, came by, Joseph’s brothers pulled him out of the cistern and sold him to them for twenty pieces of silver. And the traders took him to Egypt.”

- Nugget # 7: Envy seeks to _____.

Genesis 37: 31-33 (NLT) “Then the brothers killed a young goat and dipped Joseph’s robe in its blood. ³² They sent the beautiful robe to their father with this message: “Look at what we found. Doesn’t this robe belong to your son?” Their father recognized it immediately. “Yes,” he said, “it is my son’s robe. A wild animal must have eaten him. Joseph has clearly been torn to pieces!”

- Nugget # 8: Envy is passed on: Like _____, like _____.

Genesis 37: 34-35 (NLT) ³⁴ Then Jacob tore his clothes and dressed himself in burlap. He mourned deeply for his son for a long time. ³⁵ His family all tried to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. “I will go to my grave mourning for my son,” he would say, and then he would weep.”

- Nugget # 9: Envy leaves you _____.

Ecclesiastes 4:4 (NLT) ⁴ Then I observed that most people are motivated to success because they envy their neighbors. But this, too, is meaningless—like chasing the wind.”

THREE THINGS TO OVERCOME ENVY

1. _____MY ENVY.

Proverbs 14:30 (NIV) "A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones."

2. _____TO GOD.

Colossians 2:13-14 (NLT) ¹³ You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. ¹⁴ He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross."

3. _____WITH OTHERS

Luke 15:32 (NLT) ³² "We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!"

CONCLUSION: God gives you a _____robe to wear.