

# Envy and the Mourner

From the series:

## Two Paths: The 7 Deadly Sins and the Beatitudes

Matthew 5:4, Numbers 11:4-6

January 15, 2012

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### **GETTING STARTED**

1. Share with the group any resolutions you made for 2012.
2. What was the main point of Steve's message?

### **LEARNING & LIVING OUT SCRIPTURE**

Together, read Numbers 11:4-6

To understand today's passage from Numbers you need to know the context. The Israelites have been freed from slavery through the miracle of the parting of the Red Sea. Slavery under the Egyptians was oppressive and terrible. The Israelites are now in the wilderness where God is forming them into a people who trust him. God provides them with manna each morning (really 6 of 7 days per week) for food. But they want more.

3. What does this passage tell you about envy? What is the complaint of the Israelites?
4. How did Steve define envy? How would you describe envy?
5. Why is envy destructive?

6. Read Matthew 5:4. What are some ways we can translate blessed?
7. What does it mean to mourn?
8. What does it mean to be comforted?

### **LIVING OUT “REAL LIFE”**

9. Envy and mourning are two different reactions to a lack or a void in our lives. Envy is looking to external things to fill the void, mourning is looking internally and to God to fill the void. What is more natural to you, envying or mourning? What is the result of envying? What is the result of mourning? In what practical ways can we look to God when we feel a lack or void in our lives?

### **SHARING & PRAYER REQUESTS**