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**Fellowship of Companies for Christ
 Greater Hartford Chapter
 February 19, 2014**

- Welcome! Opening prayer and praise reports
- FCCI update: *This Is My Story* on March 5 with Tom Walker, Jr. from Skip's Septic Service
- Today's topic: ***Beware of the destructive power of jealousy!***

For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance. –Prov 6:34

Have you ever sensed that people are jealous of you or of what you have? Or, have you ever sensed that you are jealous of someone else and what they have? Last week, a Christian business owner friend introduced me to some powerful teaching about jealousy. From the outset, we're going to cover the evil dimension of jealousy, a kind of "toxic hatred." (The Ten Commandments tell us that God is a jealous God, but His "jealousy" is holy and different from what we're discussing today.)

In Isaiah 14:12-14. Satan is jealous of God and wants to make himself like the Most High. He is jealous of the glory, honor and excellence of God AND jealous of our worship of and position in God. Christians have access to God in a way that Satan will never have again.

As we examine jealousy in people, there are three common patterns:

- Paying the price** - jealous of those willing to do the things that position them for reward and blessing.
- Insecurity** - insecure people can be jealous of those who are secure.
- God's sovereignty** - people can get jealous when someone gets something they don't "deserve."

The root of jealousy is the **FEAR OF DISPLACEMENT** when (a) someone has been displaced, (b) *thinks* they were displaced, or (c) thinks they may be displaced by a coming change.

There are *generational* aspects of jealousy. Jealousy can be combined with a critical/judgmental spirit, perfectionism, and a victim spirit which all add to the toxicity. Yuck! What a waste!

One of the keys to minimizing jealousy is **HONOR**. Avoid pride (self-honor) and false humility (rejecting honor the Lord is trying to give you). Protect yourself and others with a "shield of honor" by giving appropriate honor to each other. We must recognize that in the realm of spiritual giftings and callings, **we're all specialists**. We must be secure in Him and not jealous of others. It's not a competition!

How does this apply to you today, in your business, ministry and personal lives? Let's chat.

Evaluate yourself from 1 (bad) to 10 (good) in terms of handling jealousy in us and others?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits might you enjoy by being jealousy-free and giving honor to others more?										
What specific actions can you take to be jealousy-free and more giving of honor to others?										

- Next meetings on March 5 and 19
- Upcoming events/news
- Closing prayer