

*Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.*

*Galatians 5:26 (NIV)*

## **Comparison**

**Why do you compare yourself with others?** Why is that a problem? **You tell me.** I'm not sure why comparing myself with others is a problem. **Then let me ask you a few questions.** Go ahead, I'm listening. **What has happened to you when you have compared your gifts, talents, and abilities with others? You don't really want to answer this question do you?** No, not really. **You are immediately beginning to see why it is a problem to compare yourself with others, aren't you?** Yes, I am. **Tell me what you are thinking.** When I compare my gifts, talents, and abilities with others there are two negative results. **What are they?** I might either be proud because I will think I am superior to others or be depressed and filled with envy because I will think I am inferior to others. **Which one is more likely?** That will vary from day to day and situation to situation. **So, one day you might be conceited and proud and on another day you might be depressed and filled with envy, is that true?** Yes, that's true. **What will you never be when you compare yourself to others?** When I compare myself with others, I will never be content or grateful for what I have been given. **Let's talk about not being content for a minute.** Go ahead. **What have you done when you have not been content with how I have made you? What have you done when you have not been content with the work that I have given you to do?** Those are two tough questions. I'm not going to like my answers to your questions. **I thought so, let me hear your answers anyhow.** When I am not content with how you have made me, I have wanted to be someone else. When I am not content with what you have given me to do, I have wanted to do something else. **Can you ever be someone else?** No, I can never be someone else. **Can anyone else ever be you?** No, no one can ever be me. **Is that a good or bad thing?** I have wished I could be someone else. I have thought it was a bad thing that I couldn't be someone else. **What do you think now?** I think it's pretty incredible that you uniquely made me just as I am. **Yes, I think so too. Do you believe that I have also given you unique assignments that I want you to accomplish?** Yes, I do. **Do you suppose that the person you have compared yourself with will be able to do what I have given you to do?** No, probably not and it would be a mistake for them to try. **Why is that?** If they try to do what you have given me to do, then they will not be doing what you have given them to do. **That's right.** They will be wasting time on what they have not been gifted to do. They will be wasting time not working on the assignment that you have given to them. **That is also true. Now, lets go back to the other word that you uncovered in our discussion.** What word was that? **You mentioned the word grateful.** Yes, I did. **Can you be grateful for both how I have made you and for the assignments that I have given to you?** Yes, I can. **When will that be?** I can only be grateful when I stop comparing myself with others. I can only be grateful when I give thanks to you for how you designed me to do the work that you have given me to do for you. **Will you do that?** Yes Lord, I will. **That will be very good.**

*Lord, I don't want to be conceited, nor do I want to provoke or envy others. Keep me from comparing what I have received or what I have accomplished with others. Help me to humbly walk with you so I will be thankful for all I have received. Amen*

**Guidance** *Not Become Conceited*

Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

NIV Galatians 5:26

**Guidance** *Not Become Conceited*

Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

ESV Galatians 5:26

**Guidance** *Not Become Conceited*

Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another.

NLT Galatians 5:26

**Guidance** *Not Become Conceited*

Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

NKJV Galatians 5:26

**Guidance** *Not Become Conceited*

Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.

NRSV Galatians 5:26

**Guidance** *Not Compare Ourselves With Each Other*

That means we will not compare ourselves with each other as if one of us were better and another worse. We have far more interesting things to do with our lives. Each of us is an original.

MSG Galatians 5:26

**Guidance** *Not Become Vainglorious And Self-Conceited*

Let us not become vainglorious and self-conceited, competitive and challenging and provoking and irritating to one another, envying and being jealous of one another.

AMP Galatians 5:26

**Guidance** *Won't Need To Look For Honors And Popularity*

Then we won't need to look for honors and popularity, which lead to jealousy and hard feelings.

TLB Galatians 5:26

**Guidance** *Not Become Boastful*

Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

NASB Galatians 5:26

**Guidance** *Not Be Proud Or Make Trouble*

We must not be proud or make trouble with each other or be jealous of each other.

NCV Galatians 5:26

# Not Become Conceited

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Guidance** – Galatians 5:26

**In Context:** *Read Galatians 5*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God’s Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other. Galatians 5:26 (NIV)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Let us | not become | conceited, | provoking | and | envying | each other. Galatians 5:26 (NIV)

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**Praying The Scripture:**

***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I don’t want to be conceited, nor do I want to provoke or envy others. Keep me from comparing what I have received or what I have accomplished with others. Help me to humbly walk with you so I will be thankful for all I have received. Amen

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**What It Means:**

***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** (Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)

When have you deeply regretted being conceited and self-centered?

**When has acting humbly helped you to not provoke anger in someone?**

When have you provoked anger in someone because of your conceited and self-centered behavior?

Why will envy always be the result when you compare yourself with others?

When has envy harmed you and your relationships with other people?

**Why will thinking you deserved something more or better often provoke conflict?**

**How has the Lord taught you lessons in humility as you have kept in step with His Spirit?**

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**Living It Out:**

***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Allow the Lord to teach you lessons in humility as you keep in step with the Holy Spirit.

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**Seeing It Happen:**

***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will help you to grow in humility as you keep in step with the Holy Spirit.

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**Get Ready To Share:**

***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord has been teaching you lessons in humility.

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**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you humbly walk with the Lord.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, help me to walk humbly with you.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can I walk humbly with you today?*

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