The Problem of Wrong Comparisons
For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

2 Corinthians 10:12
A Low Standard

• No comparisons
A Low Standard

• No comparisons
• Comparing with the worst
A High Standard

• Comparing with those we idolize or admire
“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor’s.”

Exodus 20:17
Now it had happened as they were coming home, when David was returning from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women had come out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with joy, and with musical instruments. So the women sang as they danced, and said: “Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands.”

1 Samuel 18:6–9

NKJV
Then Saul was very angry, and the saying displeased him; and he said, “They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed only thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?” So Saul eyed David from that day forward.

1 Samuel 18:6–9
The Facebook Cure: Five Ways to Get rid of "Facebook Envy"

Five ways to cure "the Facebook blues"

Posted Feb 10, 2013
The Effects of Wrong Comparisons

- Pride/Self-satisfaction
- Imitating what is evil
- Envy
- Hopelessness
- Inadequacy
- Avoidance of Responsibility
- Inaction
- Stagnation
The Right Standard of Comparison

• Jesus Christ
A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher.

Luke 6:40
You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

John 13:13–17
The Right Standard of Comparison

• Jesus Christ
• He shows us what NOT to do and be
For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: “Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth”;

1 Peter 2:21–22
The Right Standard of Comparison

• Jesus Christ
• He shows us what NOT to do and be
• He shows us what TO do and be
And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

Ephesians 4:11–13
The Right Standard of Comparison

• Jesus Christ
• He shows us what NOT to do and be
• He shows us what TO do and be
• Others can point the way
Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.

1 Corinthians 11:1
And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

Hebrews 6:11–12
The Right Standard of Comparison

• Jesus Christ
• He shows us what NOT TO do and be
• He shows us what TO do and be
• Others can point the way
• A perfect standard
The Effects of Comparisons

• Envy
• Hopelessness
• Inadequacy
• Avoidance of Responsibility
• Inaction
• Stagnation
Overcoming the Comparison Gap

• Get forgiveness and assurance of salvation right
Overcoming the Comparison Gap

• Get forgiveness and assurance of salvation right
• Keep the goal in mind
Overcoming the Comparison Gap

• Get forgiveness and assurance of salvation right
• Keep the goal in mind
• Count ANY progress toward that goal as a success
Overcoming the Comparison Gap

• Get forgiveness and assurance of salvation right
• Keep the goal in mind
• Count ANY progress toward that goal as a success
• Don’t compare yourself with others, but with yourself yesterday
The Right Standard of Comparison

• Jesus Christ
• He shows us what NOT TO do and be
• He shows us what TO do and be
• Others can point the way
• A perfect standard

“Get forgiveness and assurance of salvation right”