



The Thief of Joy

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COMPARISON

is the THIEF

of JOY.

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Theodore Roosevelt

Joyful Scribbles

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I often have to remind myself of the quote, “**Comparison is the thief of Joy**” by Theodore Roosevelt. It seems like I’ve written about the perils of comparing oneself to others in past posts, but it’s a lesson I often have to relearn. I guess it’s like anything else. You have to practice not playing the comparison game until it becomes ingrained in you. I’ve had many opportunities to practice, but I catch myself sliding back into the comparison game 90% of the time.

My son is starting his senior year of high school this week. My hair stylist also has a senior and we were conversing about all of the deadlines there are for college admissions, yearbook tributes, senior pictures, etc.,etc. It can all be so overwhelming. She asked if I knew of a blog that addressed living with teenagers. I jokingly told her I knew of a lot of young mommy bloggers, but that parents of teenagers just join wine clubs. If you think it’s hard to reason with a two year old, try a 16 year old.

Bribes and Santa Claus donâ€™t work anymore.

I told my friend Iâ€™m determined not to get caught up in â€œsenioritisâ€ and worry about what every one else is doing or where their going for Spring Break. Who cares if my son doesnâ€™t want an hour photography session with four outfit changes. Itâ€™s not his thing. Plus it saves me money. I would just like one or two nice pictures of him. As moms we often like to share/brag about what our kids are doing. Itâ€™s important to stay true to your familyâ€™s beliefs and budget and respect your childâ€™s authenticity. Sometimes that can be challenging when it seems like the majority of people are doing something else.

As a new school year begins remember, â€œ**Comparison is the thief of Joy.**â€ Be okay with who you are and what you have. If you donâ€™t like something do your best to change it if you can. For those parents with kids still in school, I hope that you and your children have a great start to the new school year.

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