

Love, as Defined by God – Part 2
‘Love Does Not Envy or Boast’
October 10th, 2021 – Pastor Nick Neves
1 Corinthians 13:4-7

The Apostle Paul’s definition of love spends a lot of time declaring what love cannot be. If we were to focus only on what love IS, while neglecting to understand what love is NOT, how might that seriously hinder our practice of Christian love?

Godly love does not _____.

WORD FOCUS: ENVY (ZELOI) –

- a. To _____, as with emotion
- b. To strongly desire what someone else has
- c. A fervent determination to keep solely for themselves what one already possesses

This term can be used negatively, as in 1 Corinthians 3:3, or positively, as in 1 Corinthians 12:31, 14:1, or John 2:17. But here in chapter 13, we need to see ZELOI as warning us against the kind of desire that hurts our capacity to love one another.

How does envy threaten the health of our relationships today?

Godly love does not _____

WORD FOCUS: BOAST (phoo-see-OW-tie)

To be puffed up, like an egotistical person spewing out arrogant thoughts. To bear oneself loftily.

This is not the first time that Paul has dealt with boasting in this letter:

1 Corinthians 1:31 – *as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”*

If I am boastful, I am hungry for praise and acknowledgment. Where does that hunger come from? It is the product of not being filled with the _____ of Jesus Christ! (see John 6, Colossians 1:9-14)

To repent of lovelessness...

You _____ your sin

You _____ from your sin

You _____ in the other direction