

of blessings that will never run out.

Envy lives in a universe of scarcity! Love lives in a universe of abundance! May we become free from envy so we can love truly!

Questions for Personal Reflection:

- Let's use the questions to test ourselves for envy:
 1. Is there anyone I don't like?
 2. Do I speak ill of them to others?
 3. Will I be secretly delighted if he/she fails?
- If we answer yes to any of the above, it's time to bring it to prayer, even better, to confession to rid ourselves of this evil. Focus on pouring love on this person/s. Then we will receive the love of God even more!

LOJC FEAST IN THE WEST REMINDERS:

NOV 26.....YOUTH INSPIRED! SERVANTS' RETREAT. MILTON SENIOR CENTER, 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

DEC 3..... LOJC CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION, 5:00 PM, MISSISSAUGA VALLEY CC. PLS CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE BY RESPONDING TO THE E-VITE.

DEC 17.....FEAST, 1:30 PM, HOLY ROSARY ELEM SCHOOL GYM

2012, JAN 7.....FIRST FEAST FOR 2012! HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL GYM, 1:30 PM.

2012, JAN 14.....TEAM BUILDING/WORKSHOP. VENUE TO BE ANNOUNCED

2012, JAN 21.....FEAST/MINISTRY FAIR, HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL GYM, 1:30 PM.

Prophecies: November 5, 2011

"Come to Me my little children and you will not be disappointed. My kingdom and all its riches are waiting for you. So come to Me, trust Me, My little ones."

"Just wait and see the goodness of the Lord, from Luke 11:10-13.

"The Lord desires mercy not sacrifice, stop trying to pay for your sins because you cannot pay for your sins. Nothing you can do can make you right but believe in My mercy and receive my mercy because I have paid for it. I have given my life for you so that you may be saved. Leave your sins for I have paid for it."

"I know some of you are in pain, some of you are experiencing difficulties. Let Me tell you this My children: All through these pains and difficulties, I am with you. You may not see Me now during these times but I assure you I am with you and in a little while you will see Me again. I will give you joy and no one, NO ONE can take your joy from you."

The Lord's unfailing love and mercy will continue, fresh as the morning, as sure as the sunrise! The Lord is all we have, and so in Him we put our hope. The Lord is good to everyone who trusts in Him. So its best for us to wait in patience—to wait for Him to save us. The Lord is merciful and will not reject us forever. He may bring us sorrow but His love for us is pure and strong. He takes no pleasure in causing us grief or pain.

The Feast Bulletin

www.lojcanada.com

November 19, 2011



Series: Real Score

Talk 2: Not Envious

Today, we're going to talk about love not being envious. 1 Corinthians 13 says *Love does not envy...*

Background: The story of Cain and Abel is the story of the entire human race. It's a story that is replayed over and over again in families, in organizations, in churches, in offices, in schools, even in communities like ours...

Cain and Abel were brothers. Cain and Abel offered a sacrifice to God and Abel's sacrifice was accepted and Cain's was not. Result? Cain envied Abel. And envy took on a nasty turn...
Genesis 4:6-8

Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it." Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

The spirit of Cain continues today. Because of envy, we harm others. Today, we want to cast out the spirit of Cain from our lives.

Instead of the spirit of Cain, we want our lives to be filled with the spirit of Christ. Cain takes the life of his brother. Christ gives his life for his brother.

Many envious people don't know they're envious. In fact, right now, you might be tempted to stop reading, saying, "Nah, not my issue." Actually, envy is as common as the common cold. But it's as deadly as cancer. Yes, it's like a mental cancer that destroys your life, your relationships, and your happiness.

The Two Phases Of Envy

Envy is a green monster that doesn't begin monstrous. This monster begins tiny. I believe there are two phases in the growth of Envy.

Phase 1: Why don't I have what you have?

Envy starts very naturally. We look around and see that others have been given or blessed with so much beauty, brains, money, power, position. Then we look at ourselves and we see too little or even nothing has been given us. And so we ask, "Lord, why did you make them so gifted? Why do you bless them with so much? And why did you make me so ungifted?" Why do you not bless me with the things you bless others?" "Why do you love them so much and yet you don't love me at all?"

This is what Envy is. It makes us focus on the blessings of the other person.

Envy “Kills” The Envier

Envy is mental cancer. It’s like a tumor that keeps growing until it kills us. Another analogy: Envy is a lethal, slow-acting poison. It doesn’t kill you right away. But over time, it kills. The Bible is so graphic when it describes what envy does to us. It says, envy rots the bones (Proverbs 14:30). And if we keep on nurturing Envy, it graduates to Phase 2. And Phase 2 Envy is even more dangerous.

Phase 2: If I don’t have any, you shouldn’t have any too!

This is when envy becomes cruel and destructive not only to one’s self, but to others. Envy will now kill two people—the envier and the one being envied. Envy is like a cannibal, but an insane cannibal. It eats others and eats parts of the envier himself as well.

Phase 2 of Envy is Cain’s Envy. (Genesis 4:6-8). Cain used a rock and bashed it on his brother’s head. We don’t use physical rocks but we use something as deadly—**the rocks of our words, through gossip and slander.** We may not desire his physical death. But we conspire for some kind of death. What kind? Social death. We want the person we envy to be humiliated; to lose face.

How Do I Know If I Have Envy?

You won’t know if you have envy by asking, “Am I envious?” Because we’re usually blind to our own envy. Here are three questions to ask to know if you have Phase 2 Envy.

Question 1: Is There Anyone I Don’t Like?

Sometimes, we don’t like someone because he offended us or hurt us. But sometimes, we don’t know why we don’t like someone. We can’t explain it. This doesn’t automatically mean you have envy. But it means you’ve got to ask the second question.

Question 2: What Does He Have That I Don’t Have—But Want To Have?

If the other person has something you don’t have but you want to have, then it’s probably envy. Example: When a woman envies another woman because she’s sexier, thinner, and more beautiful, she’ll start poking holes on her life or his character. When it gives you pleasure to criticize the other person, then you can almost be sure you’ve got Phase 2 Envy.

Question 3: Will I Be Secretly Delighted If He Falls?

You know you’ve got Phase 2 Envy if you secretly delight to hear the falls, faults, fumbles, and failures of the other person. We find delicious satisfaction in knowing he’s getting his just rewards for being “too proud”. We even spread the “sad” news around. If we’re religious, we justify spreading it around by first saying, “Let’s pray for Sue. The one you see driving a brand new Mercedes? Yes, that’s her. I heard that her marriage is falling apart...”

Going To The Root Of All Envy

Envy is only a symptom. The root of all Envy is Emptiness. Envy isn’t about the other person. Envy is always about a deep dissatisfaction with ourselves. Here’s the point: A person who is happy with himself—



and profoundly satisfied with himself—cannot envy others. It’s impossible. Where does the feeling of emptiness and insecurity come from? It comes from fear. Specifically, the fear of worthlessness.

And friend, there is only one thing that can fill your emptiness and heal your fear of worthlessness: God’s Love.

Two Powerful Steps To Get Rid Of Envy

The antidote to envy is **gratitude for God’s Love** just as the antidote to impatience is Trust in God’s love. You show gratitude in two ways which are also the only two ways to get rid of Envy.

Step One: Celebrate Our Own Abundance

This means counting our blessings no matter how small. It means looking at the little that we have and lifting up our hearts to God and thanking Him for what we have been given! When we’re grateful, we’re satisfied with what we have. And when we’re satisfied with what we have, envy will have a hard time finding a foothold in our heart!

And when we’re grateful for God’s blessings in your life, slowly, we’ll be grateful for God’s blessings in the lives of others too.

And this brings us to Step Two.

Step Two: Celebrate Their Abundance

Let’s be genuinely happy for other people’s successes, in the family, in the community and even our co-workers! Share in their joy! Share in their victory! In fact, let’s don’t just be happy when it happens. Let’s pray that it happens.

When we do this, something magical will happen to our life. Because there’s a Law in the universe that states that what you give, you’ll receive in abundance. (Luke 6:38). ***If we envy the blessings that other people receive, we’re driving away those blessings from our life. But if we’re genuinely grateful for the blessings other people receive, we’ll attract those exact same blessings into our life more easily.***

Once we experience this genuine happiness for others, that’s the day we know that we’re free from envy. And this is where other people’s success becomes a real inspiration. “If he can do it, I can do it too.”

Is There Such A Thing As Positive Envy?

Perhaps it’s not envy but encouragement. It’s easy to know if it’s envy or encouragement. Do I wish him ill? Or do I wish him well? If I wish him ill, then it’s envy. But if I wish him well (that he prospers more in his life so I’ll even be more inspired), then it’s encouragement.

Encouragement says, “If he can do it, I can do it too.” Envy says, “Who does he think he is?” Envy comes with anger. Encouragement comes with an abundance mindset—that there’s more than enough for everyone.

We Need To Believe In Abundance by having an “abundance mindset”.

When our friends get blessed, it doesn’t lessen our chance of being blessed. Because we don’t live in a limited universe. In God’s Kingdom, there is no scarcity of blessings. There is only abundance. The universe is a giant bucket