

Envy Not.

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You might think it is impossible to handle deep resentment and envy because of some hurtful experience. However, my obedience to Christ is not based on my 'feelings' but upon the enabling grace of my Lord Himself! Only the love of God can powerfully set my heart free from self-centered living. All the emotions that bind and control my life, will be broken when I willingly allow Him to love through me and I, '*envy not*' 1 Corinthians 13:4.

We knew a Christian lady who proved the enabling love and grace of God when she faced a heart-breaking situation because her husband suddenly left her and filed for divorce to live with another woman. Her attorney arranged a luncheon meeting to discuss and finalize divorce agreements. The Christian lady arrived before the other guests and placed a beautiful red rose on the table-setting of her husband's new wife to be. Carefully, beside the rose, she placed a note of well-wishes for the couple's future happiness. By this transformative experience of God's love in her life, she prayed that this simple gesture would be interpreted as a testimony of His divine empowerment and that they might too receive Christ through her simple action.

"Hope makes not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us" Romans 5:5. Do I envy others, or, do I allow the Lord Jesus Christ to love others through me?