

LOVE KILLERS

The Ingredients of Love: Part 3

April 21, 2024

Pastor Brian

*"[Love] does not **ENVY**...does not **BOAST**...is not **PROUD**."
(1 Corinthians 13:4, NIV)*

1. **COMPARISON** kills connection.

*"You must not covet your neighbor's house. You must not covet your neighbor's wife, male or female servant, ox or donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor."
(Exodus 20:17, NLT)*

a. It breeds **CONFLICT**.

"Do you know where your fights and arguments come from? They come from the selfish desires that war within you." (James 4:1, NCV)

b. It leads to **RESENTMENT**.

"Once we, too, were foolish and disobedient. We were misled and became slaves to many lusts and pleasures. Our lives were full of evil and envy, and we hated each other." (Titus 3:3, NLT)

c. It bleeds my **JOY**.

"It's healthy to be content, but envy can eat you up." (Proverbs 14:30, CEV)

The Antidote: **GRATITUDE**

*"So I never stop being grateful for you, as I mention you in my prayers."
(Ephesians 1:16, CEV)*

2. **PRIDE** poisons perspective.

"You're nothing but show-offs! First, take the log out of your own eye. Then you can see how to take the speck out of your friend's eye." (Matthew 7:5, CEV)

a. It prevents **FELLOWSHIP**.

"If we live in the light—just as he is in the light—then we have fellowship with one another...[but] if we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and there is no truth in us." (1 John 1:7–8, GNB)

b. It provokes **ARGUMENTS**.

*“Arrogance produces only quarreling, but those who take advice gain wisdom.”
(Proverbs 13:10, GW)*

c. It postpones RECONCILIATION.

“A man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. But if he confesses and forsakes them, he gets another chance.” (Proverbs 28:13, The Living Bible)

The Antidote: Humility

“So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. Let there be tears for what you have done. Let there be sorrow and deep grief. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.” (James 4:7–10, NLT)

ACTION STEP

5-day Prayer Challenge