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| Summary: Man was not made to be alone; we were made to live with each other. The problem with living with people is that we often look around and measure ourselves by what we see around us. Before too long this feeling leads to jealousy, to discontentment and finally to envy.Envy according to the book of Proverbs is a vice that rots its victims from the inside out (Prov 14:30). Put simply, envy is the human ability to look at others, their successes, their situations and even their possessions and be burdened by a sense of displeasure. It’s not only a jealous desire to want something from someone else, it’s also an inability to acknowledge the success of others.Envy is destructive because it corrodes relationships, it’s impossible to truly love some one that you are envious of. It’s a vice that can be traced all the way back to the first natural born brothers, Cain and Able. Simply because he did not like the situation he was in, Cain killed his much more successful brother Able out of pure envy.Most people don’t kill those they are envious of today, we simply resent them. We find it hard when people like us are more successful than we are. We struggle with those who seem to have things easier than we do. We envy all kinds of things.The root of envy is a deep dissatisfaction with God. It’s not only a lack of love for our neighbour it’s a lack of trust in Gods provision. Envy says to God, I’m not happy with what you’ve given me. Yet the Bible shows God has given us everything we need and more. |

se7en Deadly sins |  |

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| Envy in the book of proverbs1. Why is envy associated with the colour green?
2. How and why has our world made envy so much easier?
3. Why does social media fuel envy in our world today?
4. What does Proverbs 14:30 mean when it says envy rots the bones?
5. How does the second half of Proverbs 15:27 ring true?
6. Do you think that envy is as big a problem as Proverbs 27:4 says it is?
7. How is envy destructive to relationships?
8. How is envy a rejection of God himself?
9. How are Christians prone to envy? Are we just better at hiding it?
10. How serious a sin is envy? (Read Galatians 5:19-21)
11. Define contentment? Why is it a Christian virtue?
12. Read Proverbs 23:17-18 & 24:19-20. How might we be envious of sinners?
13. How is contentment a sign of the sure hope that these two proverbs speak about?
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