

1 Cor 13:4-7

Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

In our daily devotional series on love, for our fourth thing we will look at concerning love, like yesterday's devotional, is also something that love does not do.

love does not parade itself

So what does *parade itself* mean?

Another word, which is used in the NLT, is *boastful*.

When you are **parading** someone you love around, you are causing others to be **jealous** and **envious** of what you have, and as we learned yesterday *love does not envy*

I have an awesome fiancé who I believe is a gift from the Lord. She's very beautiful both inside and outside. She laughs at my jokes and we have a wonderful time together all the time. And most important, she loves the Lord more than me.

So am I **parading** her around or being **boastful** because I tell you these things?

No, because this is something you don't read here all the time. But if every time you came here and read these devotionals and all you read about was the great fiancé I had, that would be **boasting**. If you think about it, you may even **envy** me for having such a great fiancé, but would soon start to get sick about hearing about her all the time.

I have a friend who, years ago, got a promotion at work, and his wife gave a party for him and invited some of their friends, because she was pleased with her husband and what a hard worker he was. But afterwards she didn't go around telling the same people over and over that he got a promotion. That would be **boasting**.

Here is an example in the bible on how to tell others about someone you love.

† **Job 1:8** *Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?"*

So was God **boasting** about Job? No, because Job is not all God talks about in heaven, and since God is perfect and loves perfectly, He is showing us that it's ok to tell others about someone you love. Notice God calls Job *My servant Job* not just Job, just like I say My Fiancé because I love her, if not I would just call her Some Girl.

It's ok to be pleased and happy with someone God had brought into your life, and even tell others about him or her. But also, remember God has given you Jesus too, and you should tell others of this wonderful gift from God.

The intent of telling others about someone you love, is to lift that person up or to encourage others that there really is something called true love, and the truest love can only be found in God and His Son Jesus Christ and that they too can experience that love as well.

So go ahead and tell others about the one you love, just don't over do it, because that wouldn't be love, it would be irritating.

- † **Proverbs 23:17** *Do not let your heart envy sinners, But be zealous for the fear of the LORD all the day;*
- † **Ecclesiastes 4:4 (NLT2)** *Then I observed that most people are motivated to success because they envy their neighbors. But this, too, is meaningless—like chasing the wind.*
- † **Galatians 6:14** *But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.*