

be exercised thoughtfully and diligently. In the interest of maintaining and increasing such love, everything that is inconsistent with, or contrary to seeking the good of others must be renounced.

The complaint is often heard that renunciation is only effective for a very brief period of time. This is too often the case. The reason for this is that people tend to look upon renunciation as a once-for-all act. It would be more accurate to think of it as being similar to weeding a garden. After a spring rain you may spend considerable time and effort pulling every alien sprout from among the good growth. That does not settle the matter. Constant attention will be required to keep the garden weed free. There is still more to the process than pulling the weeds. The good growth will need to be cultivated, fertilized, and guarded against the host of varmints that would destroy it. So the putting off, putting on process is a discipline rather than a single act. There are definite steps to be taken in accomplishing this.

a. Identify envy as sin.

In a team situation it is all too easy to see envy as legitimate competition or as zeal for God's work or some other convenient rationalization. It is necessary to be brutally honest with oneself in evaluating motives, goals and attitudes. The person who is motivated by selfish ambition could be represented as having the tendencies seen in the figure on the following page.