

Why be Envious because God is generous

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The gifts that you have are to be used to the full.

The gifts that you have not are largely irrelevant.

There was once a rumour that I had something of a resemblance to Sean Connery. Well maybe not Sean Connery, perhaps more like George Clunney, or George Best. That may all be a bit of wishful thinking and exaggerating. But I am not exaggerating when I say that after my birth, when my mother first saw my face, she thought it was beautiful. What is more when eventually I see her face again, little will compare with the joy of such an image.

Comparison is most often foolish

I am beautiful

You are beautiful

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The gifts you do not have are largely irrelevant

Learn to be happy with what you have

I am both blessed and cursed with the consequences of coming from a sporting family. My eldest brother played for school teams at both soccer and rugby. My youngest brother had a chance of signing professional for Bury FC. I personally have no eye ball coordination, and was always one of those last picked as captains selected teams in the school yard. Largely as a result of sporting prowess, one brother has had surgery on his knees, another on his hips, and I often run up and back to Darwen tower at the age of sixty one.

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As a young idealist I made something of an option for a life of simplicity. Thus when I move parishes most of what I own can be transported in one van. (Books and pictures mostly.) Thus there is a clear example of Gods sense of humour when it is observed that I live in two houses. The food I eat is of good quality and secure. There is always heat in the bedroom that I sleep. There is little or no threat of unemployment. Indeed there are real prospects that I shall be engaged for many years to come.

My brothers are all retired. Their cars all bigger than mine and their mortgages paid.

I only hope that they are as rich as I am

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Why be envious, because God is generous.

If there is enough then recognise the gift

Make the very most of what you have

Join in the celebration of life with what you have

And enjoy the feast.