

Travel Light

Part 3: Letting Go of Bitterness

Hebrews 12:14-15

Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy... See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

Key thought for today: we need to recognize that you can't control what people do, but you can control how you respond.

This message is important for the Christmas season – whatever emotional state you're in is magnified in the holiday season.

Two problems with bitterness:

1. Bitterness has a dangerous root.

Hebrews 12:15

See to it ... that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble...

2. Poisonous fruit.

How do we kill a root of bitterness?

Ephesians 4:31-32

Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. 32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

1. Compassion

Romans 12:21

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Luke 6:28

Bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

2. Forgiveness

"To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover the prisoner was me"