

MONSTER MYTHS

PART 5

Hebrews 12:14–15 Work at living in peace with everyone, and work at living a holy life, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord. Look after each other so that none of you fails to receive the grace of God. Watch out that no poisonous root of bitterness grows up to trouble you, corrupting many.

THE MONSTER: BITTERNESS.

THE VICTIMS: BITTERNESS CAN CORRUPT ME AND MANY AROUND ME.

THE LIE: MY BITTERNESS CAN MAKE THINGS BETTER.

THE DANGER: BITTERNESS CAN DESTROY ME SPIRITUALLY, RELATIONALLY, EMOTIONALLY, AND PHYSICALLY.

HOW TO ESCAPE THE ROOT OF BITTERNESS

1. LOOK IN THE MIRROR.

Isaiah 64:6 We are all infected and impure with sin. When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags. Like autumn leaves, we wither and fall, and our sins sweep us away like the wind.

1 John 1:8 If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth.

2. FOCUS ON FORGIVENESS.

1 John 1:9 But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

Matthew 6:14–15 “If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

3. DON'T STOP FORGIVING.

Matthew 18:21–22 Then Peter came to him and asked, “Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?” “No, not seven times,” Jesus replied, “but seventy times seven!”

Luke 23:34 Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.”