





Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.

See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

Hebrews 12:14-15 (NIV)

### 1. Bitterness has a dangerous root.

## See to it that...no bitter root grows up...

# A root of bitterness always grows in the soil of a hurt that was not dealt with Biblically.

### Roots absorb and store and grow.

### 2. Bitterness has poisonous fruit.

## See to it that... no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

defile: miaino (me-ah'-ee-no); stain, pollute or contaminate.

...whenever (the bitter root) springs up, many are corrupted by its poison.

# Bitterness starts with a dangerous root that grows into a poisonous fruit.

#### We easily see the bad in others.

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We easily see the bad in others.

We feel justified in criticizing and gossiping.

We secretly celebrate their misfortunes.

We bring many people down.

# With whom, or at what are you bitter?

Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

### 1. Kill bitterness with compassion.

### Be kind and compassionate to one another...

# When you begin praying for someone, God may not change them, but He always seems to change you.

### 2. Kill bitterness with forgiveness.

...forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

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### Personal Prayer of Forgiveness

God, I pray that you would forgive me for allowing bitterness to grow. By the power of your Holy Spirit, would you clean the bitterness from my heart. Replace the root of bitterness with a heart full of compassion and forgiveness. I pray you would restore my wounded relationship(s). In Jesus name, Amen.