

"The Bitter Fruit of Unforgiveness"

HEBREWS 12:15 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.

WE MUST BE VERY INTENTIONAL AS TO WHAT WE ALLOW INTO OUR HEARTS.

PROVERBS 4:23

MATTHEW 18:15

EPHESIANS 4:31

THE 4 FRUITS OF BITTERNESS AND A COUPLE OF O.T. ILLUSTRATIONS:

1. **ANGER & _____.**
GENESIS 4:3-5,8
2. **ISOLATION, WHICH LEADS TO _____.**
RUTH 1:20-21
3. **A LACK OF _____ OR JOY.**
1ST SAMUAL 18:6-11
4. **PHYSICAL _____**
NUMBERS 12:10

ALL OF THESE ARE IN SHARP CONTRAST TO THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT, FOUND IN GALATIANS 5:22-23

IF WE WANT TO EXPERIENCE THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR LIVES, WE MUST FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN TO US IN **EPHESIANS 4:32**.

5 WAYS IN WHICH SOME PEOPLE ARE CONFUSED ABOUT WHAT FORGIVENESS IS.

1. **FORGIVENESS IS NOT ABOUT _____ OR _____ WHAT HAS BEEN DONE.**
2. **FORGIVING A PERSON DOES NOT REMOVE THE _____ THAT THEY MIGHT HAVE TO EXPERIENCE BECAUSE OF THEIR ACTIONS.**
3. **FORGIVENESS DOES NOT MEAN _____ WITH THE OTHER PERSON.**
4. **FORGIVENESS DOES NOT _____ THE PAIN INSTANTANEOUSLY.**
5. **FORGIVENESS DOES NOT MEAN _____ WHAT HAS HAPPENED.**

FORGIVENESS IS A CHOICE, NOT A FEELING, AND IS BASED ON OBEDIENCE TO GOD.

FORGIVENESS IS MORE ABOUT YOU THAN THE OTHER PERSON.

FORGIVENESS IS THE MOST POWERFUL TOOL THAT WE HAVE TO BRING ABOUT HEALING.

HEBREWS 12:14-15

FORGIVENESS IS FOR OUR EMOTIONAL, PHYSICAL, AND SPIRITUAL HEALTH.

HEBREWS 12:1

HOW DO WE DEAL WITH THE STRUGGLE TO FORGIVE?

MATTHEW 11:28-30
PSALMS 46:1
MATTHEW 5:44
PROVERBS 11:14

WHAT IS OUR BIBLICAL RESPONSIBILITY TO FORGIVENESS?
OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S _____ AND _____.

MATTHEW 6:9:15
MATTHEW 18:21-35
COLOSSIANS 3:13