

Finding Freedom

Removing Bitterness

3-3-19

Hebrews 12:14-15- Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

1. Where does bitterness come from?

- Hurts and pains that are _____ with properly.

Hebrews 12:14- **Make every effort to live in peace with all men** and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.

2. Where does bitterness grow?

- Hurts and pains that are _____ in your heart/emotions.

Hebrews 12:15- See to it that no one misses the grace of God and **that no bitter root grows up** to cause trouble and defile many.

Bitter means: (me-ah'-ee-no); stain, pollute or **contaminate**.

3. How do bitter people _____ and _____?

- Become overly **critical**.
- **Justify** their bitterness.
- Secretly **celebrate** misfortunes.
- Struggle to see bitterness in the **mirror**.

4. What kind of damage will it cause?

Hebrews 12:15 - See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to **cause trouble and defile many**.

- _____ damage
- _____ damage
- _____ damage

Hebrews 12:14 - Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.

5. What kind of by-products will this dangerous fruit produce?

Ephesians 4:26-31 - "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry,²⁷ and do not give the devil a foothold. . . .³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

³¹ Get rid of all **bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander**, along with every form of **malice**.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

6. How do I kill the root?

- Let God _____ it.

Psalms 139:23-24 - Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.²⁴ See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

- Let grace _____ it.

Ephesians 4:32- Be kind and compassionate to one another, **forgiving each other**, just as in Christ God **forgave you**.

Ephesians 5:1-2- **Be imitators of God**, therefore, as dearly loved children ² and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us **and gave himself up for us** as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

- Let good _____ it.

Hebrews 12:14- Make every effort to **live in peace with all men** and to be holy...

7. What if I have someone in my life that is bitter? What can I do?

- Pray for _____.
- Set up _____ for protection.

Personal prayer:

“God, I admit that I’ve allowed a root of bitterness to grow against _____. Please forgive me of this sin. By your power, give me a heart of compassion and forgiveness toward this person. I pray you would restore my wounded relationship(s). In Jesus’ name, Amen.