

The Challenge of Bitterness

- Bitterness starts out small
- We replay it in our minds creating deep ruts



The Challenge of Bitterness

- We fool ourselves into thinking no one will know, but bitterness has a way of seeping into everything



The Challenge of Bitterness

(Romans 12:18)

- *“If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone”*
- So how can we do that?



The Challenge of Bitterness

- Have you ever struggled with bitterness?
- God warns us about the grave danger of bitterness
(Heb.12:15)



bit·ter·ness

- sharpness of taste;
lack of sweetness.
- acidity

- anger
and resentment at
being
treated unfairly;
- animosity, harshness



bit·ter·ness

- Cain toward Abel
(Gen.4)
- Moses at the water
of Meribah
(Num.20)
- Saul toward David
(2Sam.18)



bit·ter·ness

- “Harboring bitterness is like drinking poison and hoping the other person dies...”
- “The more I feed bitterness in my heart, the more it brings death to me”



bit·ter·ness

- Bitterness is poison dipped in honey. It tastes sweet going down, then it kills us from the inside out



bit·ter·ness

- In this way, bitterness is the poster child for the deceitfulness of sin. Whenever we love something that brings death to us, the devil has us right where he wants us



Acts 8:20-23

Poisoned
by
Bitterness






Overcoming
Bitterness

Learning From Joseph

- The measure of evil committed against him
- The longevity of the temptation
- Joseph's initiative
- Joseph's kindness
- Joseph's perspective



A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a large, vibrant bunch of fresh green lettuce. The person is wearing a white t-shirt and blue jeans. The background is a bright, slightly blurred outdoor setting. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

What Is the **Cure?**

- Stop feeding it!
- Resolve insecurity
- Acknowledge that **my** bitterness is **my** sin. I own it!
- Trust the work of God

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a large, vibrant bunch of curly green lettuce. The person is wearing a white t-shirt and blue jeans. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The lighting is bright and natural, highlighting the texture and color of the lettuce.

What Is the **Cure?**

- The power of God's grace
- Demonstrate love in a practical way
- Remember God's promises
- Cast a tree into the bitter water...