

Trouble in the Roots

Home for the Holidays – Part 2

12.2.18 – New Life Church

Pastor Jim Von Wald

Proverbs 14:30 (NIV) *A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones.*

I. The root called bitterness.

Hebrews 12:14-15 (TLB) *Try to stay out of all quarrels, and seek to live a clean and holy life, for one who is not holy will not see the Lord. ¹⁵ Look after each other so that not one of you will fail to find God's best blessings. Watch out that no bitterness takes root among you, for as it springs up it causes deep trouble, hurting many in their spiritual lives.*

A. Roots absorb.

B. Roots store.

Romans 12:17-19 (NIV) *Do not repay anyone evil for evil...¹⁸live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.*

II. The contaminated root.

Hebrews 12:15 (NIV) *See to it that....no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.*

- A. We only see the bad.
- B. We justify gossip.
- C. We celebrate misfortunes.
- D. We create alliances.

Challenge Question: Is there someone that I am bitter towards?

III. Killing the root of bitterness.

Look up verse: Ephesians 4:31-32 (NIV) *Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*

- A. The RoundUp of compassion.
- B. The RoundUp of forgiveness.

Challenge Question: Is there someone I have not forgiven?

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A. Roots _____.

B. Roots _____.

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II. The _____ root.

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- C. We celebrate _____.
- D. We create _____.

Challenge Question: Is there someone that I am bitter towards?

III. _____ the root of bitterness.

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- A. The RoundUp of _____.
- B. The RoundUp of _____.

Challenge Question: Is there someone I have not forgiven?