



BITTER FRUIT

Hebrews 12:12-15

1. We are in a race of faith.



a. The race is for all of us.



b. The race was run by others successfully, not perfectly.



c. The race was run by Jesus successfully AND perfectly.



**2. We must run with
endurance.**



a. We must lay aside
every weight.



**b. We must lay aside
every sin.**



3. How do we increase endurance?



a. We must strive for
peace with others.



Romans 12:16-21

Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

**b. We must strive for
holiness.**



4. What inhibits endurance?



a. Not relying on God's
grace inhibits endurance.



b. Bitterness inhibits
endurance.



5. What does bitterness do?



a. Bitterness grows roots.



b. Bitterness grows quickly.



c. Bitterness causes
trouble.



d. Bitterness affects
everyone around you.



e. Bitter roots produce
bitter fruits.



Deuteronomy 29:18

Beware lest there be among you a man or woman or clan or tribe whose heart is turning away today from the LORD our God to go and serve the gods of those nations. Beware lest there be among you a root bearing poisonous and bitter fruit...

- **Gossip/slander - Ps. 34:13**
- Discontentment and complaining - Phil 2:4**
- Dissatisfaction with God's sovereignty in your life - Job 30-31**
- Unforgiveness (Keeping the record) - 1 Cor. 13:5**
- Anger and hatred - Eph. 4:31**
- Fear - Ps. 27: 1-3; 1 Peter 3:6**
- Envy - James. 3:14-19**
- Pride - Prov. 6:16-19**
- Revenge - Rom. 12: 17-19**
- Rebellion - 1 Sam. 15:22-23**
- Self-centeredness - Phil. 2:3-4**
- Physical Illness - Ps. 38**
- Critical and judgmental attitude - Matt. 7:5; 1 Cor. 4:5**
- Excessive sorrow - Gen. 4:6-7**
- No joy - Ps. 51:10-12**
- Dissension - Gal. 5:20**

**f. Bitterness draws God's
discipline.**



**6. How do you
overcome
bitterness?**



Ephesians 4:31-32

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

a. Repent.



Put away sinful attitudes:

bitterness — long, drawn-out anger

wrath — violent, explosive anger

anger — anger

clamor — loud, mouthy, everyone-knows-

I'm-angry anger

slander — I don't tell you that I'm angry at

you, but I tell everyone else

malice — I don't get angry, I get even

Put on godly virtues:

b. Be kind.



Put on godly virtues:

c. Be tenderhearted.



Put on godly virtues:

d. Forgive the same way
Christ forgave you.





The Root of Bitterness

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davidschurch.org/bitter

