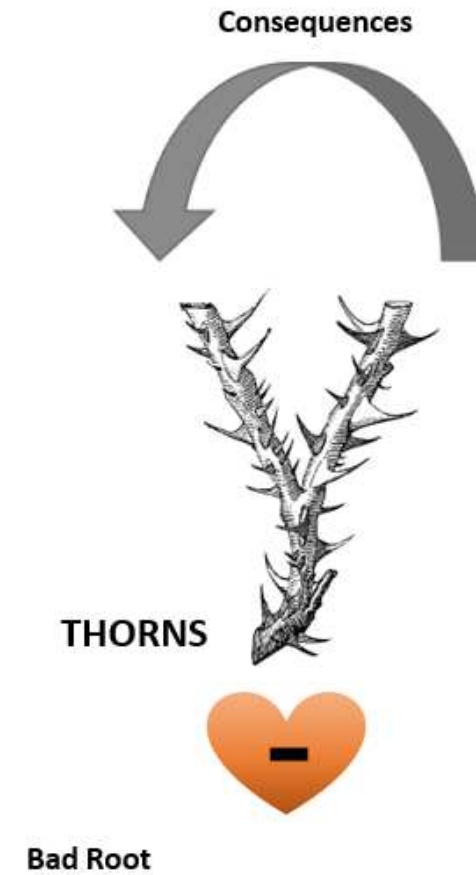
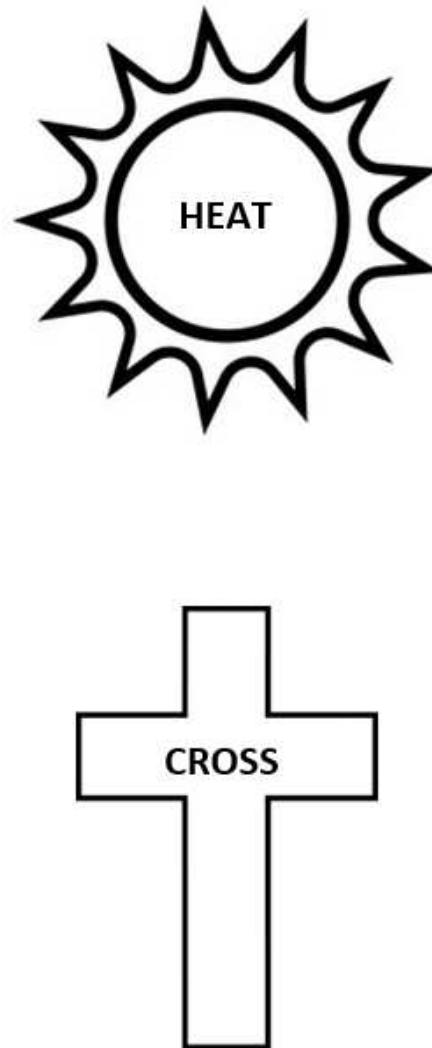
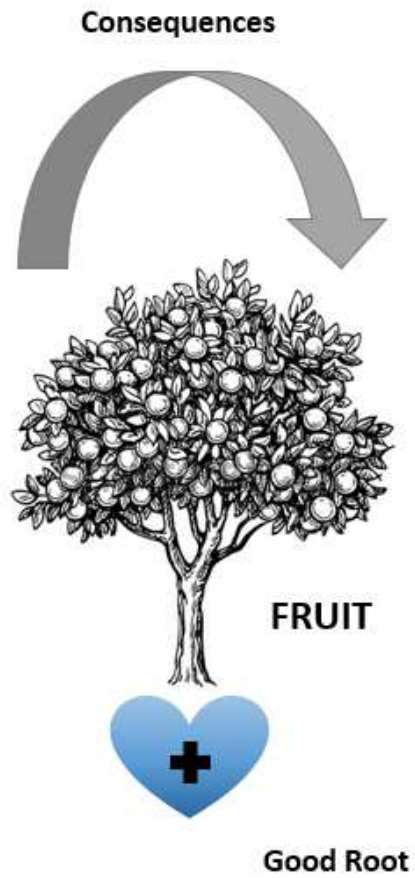

How People Change

Week 3: The Thorns – What and how do we get entangled?





Ephesians 4:17-32

¹⁷ Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. ¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. ¹⁹ They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. ²⁰ But that is not the way you learned Christ!— ²¹ assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus,

Ephesians 4:17-32

²² to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. ²⁵ Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. ²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil.

Ephesians 4:17-32

²⁸ Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. ²⁹ Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Thorn Bush Responses

1. Deny

2. Magnify

Thorn Bush Responses

3. Prickly

4. Eye for an eye

Thorn Bush Responses

5. Paralyzed

6. Self-righteousness

Fruit tree reactions to heat

1. Face Reality

2. Respond with appropriate intensity

Fruit tree reactions to heat

3. Be alert

4. Engage in constructive activities

Fruit tree reactions to heat

5. Remember

Why do we sin / get entangled?

1. Other people
 2. Our past / family upbringing
-

Why do we sin / get entangled?

3. Our present circumstances

4. Our physical bodies

The Ten Commandments – Deuteronomy 5:6-21

- You shall have no other gods before me
- You shall not make for yourself a carved image to bow down to or serve
- You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain
- Observe the Sabbath
- Honour your father and your mother
- You shall not murder
- You shall not commit adultery
- You shall not steal
- You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour
- You shall not covet your neighbour's wife or anything that is your neighbour's

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PERSONAL PROJECT

Look through David Powlison's X-Ray Questions from the book*. Choose any 2 questions and respond to them.

If you do not have the [book](#), you may refer to [this article](#) from the Journal of Biblical Counseling 18:1 | 1999 that references these questions.