

GOT TROUBLE?

What To Do When You Don't Know What To Do

BITTER-SWEET

Exodus 15:22-27 Jeff Schreve

And when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter; therefore it was named Marah. So the people grumbled at Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?"

What does God want us to learn from this "Marah" story?

1. Bitter things are part of life.

A. They are unavoidable.

In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration; but be of good cheer [take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world.

John 16:33 AMP

B. They often come on the heels of great victory.

2. Bitter things are used by God.

And you shall remember all the way which the LORD your God has led you in the wilderness these forty years, that He might humble you, testing you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not. Deuteronomy 8:2

A. He uses them to humble us.

B. He uses them to test us.

There He made for them a statute and regulation, and there He tested them. Exodus 15:25

1. The self-centered heart grumbles and despairs.

*How long shall I bear with this evil congregation who are grumbling against Me? I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel, which they are making against Me.
Numbers 14:27*

2. The God-centered heart trusts and prays.

Then he [Moses] cried out to the LORD ... Exodus 15:25

3. Bitter things are sweetened by the cross.

*... and the LORD showed him a tree; and he threw it into the waters,
and the waters became sweet. Exodus 15:25*

A. The cross changes everything.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. 1 Peter 2:24 ESV

B. The cross turns every negative to a positive.

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28

If you'll take your Marah to the cross, God will do a miracle.