

Better Not Bitter 1

The next few AO Notes are edited correspondence with a friend, whom I'll call "George," who has been in a difficult work situation:

---o---o---o---o---

Hi George,

Thanks for your update. You are weathering some rough seas! I wish I could "fix" the problem. One thing I am sure of: God has NOT abandoned you. Another is that it's counterproductive, even unhealthy, to analyze too deeply at this point, "Did I make a mistake to take this position, etc.?"

I suggest simply acknowledging what is disagreeable, and deciding which of two choices you will make: One is to be bitter -- which is destructive to you and all around you. The other is to say to God, "I do NOT like my situation, but I most of all I want Your will to be done, not mine." And that's always the very best response, since it's Jesus' model. (cf. *Matt. 26*)

In drought, Iowa corn roots go down deep for water. Similarly, you can allow your roots to grow deeply into God's care and love. I pray for you.

---o---o---o---o---



Coffee/tea thought: Will I allow my roots to go down deep into God's love today, or will I let myself sink into destructive bitterness?

John

更好而非更苦 1

接下来的AO系列节选自我的朋友，我这里叫他乔治，在工作上遇到困难时与我的通信。

---o---o---o---o---

乔治，

谢谢你的消息。你的生活真是波澜起伏！我真希望我能解决这些问题。有一件事我有把握：神没有离弃你。另外，这种时候去追究“我是否本来就不该作这份工作”无济于事，甚至还有副作用。

我建议你简单想想以下两个选择哪个让你讨厌：一是继续在苦毒中——这对你和你周围的人都不好。另一个是对神说，“我不喜欢我现在的状况，但我觉得最重要的是要你的旨意成就，而不是我的。”这总是最好的反应，因为耶稣也是这样（马太福音26章）。

干旱无水时，爱荷华的玉米总是深深扎根在土里汲取水分。同样，你也可以让你自己深深扎根在神的关爱里。我为你祷告。

---o---o---o---o---

随想：我愿意让自己深深扎根在神的爱里，还是愿意陷入苦毒中？

史建恩