

Sermon Notes

Matthew 6:9-15 (NIV)

Taking offense is the prison, forgiveness is the key

Forgiveness is NOT:

- Minimizing the offense
- Forgetting what happened
- Complete Reconciliation

Seven Ways to Remain Unoffendable:

- 1) Stay Humble
- 2) Never Control

James 4:6b (ESV)

**Hurt people hurt people
The Forgiven Forgive**

- 3) Speak Life

Matthew 5:43-45a (NKJV)

Never trust your tongue when your heart is bitter... hush until you heal.

Your prayer for them may or may not change them, but it will always change you.

- 4) Trust God
- 5) Meet with Jesus
- 6) Be Grateful

Romans 12:17-19 (ESV) / 1 Peter 2: 21-23 (ESV)

1 Thessalonians 5:15-18 (ESV)

**If you have a problem giving grace,
then you know you have a problem receiving grace.**

- 7) Only one enemy

Matthew 18:21-22 (ESV) / Forgiveness is the only way Forward

Discussion Questions

- 1) What impacted you the most from this week's message? Encouraged you? Challenged you?
- 2) How do you respond to the statement, "Taking offense is the prison, and forgiveness is the key" – and have you experienced this in your own life?
- 3) Why is it important to remember what "Forgiveness is Not" when you've been hurt?
- 4) Which of the *Seven Ways to Remain Unoffendable* come most natural to you? Which are the most difficult? What needs to change for you to get better at being unoffendable?
- 5) Read Matthew 6:9-15. Who do you need to forgive right now? Ask God to give you the grace you need to extend forgiveness. Make the choice – say the prayer – release the hurt.