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I'M OFFINEDED

Why we get offended in God's Family:

1. In God's family, there are babies.

"By now you should be teachers. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the first things you need to know from God's Word. You still need milk instead of solid food. Anyone who lives on milk cannot understand the teaching about being right with God. He is a baby. Solid food is for full-grown men."

(Hebrews 5:12-14)

"Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual, but as worldly—as infants in Christ. I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for solid food. In fact, you are still not ready, for you are still worldly.

For since there is igalousy and dissension among you, are

For since there is jealousy and dissension among you, are you not worldly? Are you not walking in the way of man? For when one of you says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not mere men?"

(1 Corinthians 3:1-5)

Why we get offended in God's Family:

2. A Church is a Mixed Bag.

"Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.

But while everyone was asleep, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and slipped away. When the wheat sprouted and bore grain, then the weeds also appeared..."

(Matthew 13:24-26)

"You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him...."

(John 8:44)

"For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves"

(Colossians 1:13)



Elijah & Elisha

(2 Kings 2)

"Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?" "Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied."

(2 Kings 2:9-10).

"Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you....On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?"Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you?....From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him."

(John 6:53, 60-61, 66)

When I decided to follow Jesus, I lost my right to live offended.

"Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

(Matthew 16:24)

"You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."

(Matthew 7:5)

"Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger"

(Ephesians 4:26)

"See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many."

(Hebrews 12:15)

We live <u>offended</u> when we expect too much from people and too little from God.

1. We get bitter when we expect too much from people

"But Jesus did not entrust Himself to them, for He knew them all. He did not need any testimony about man, for He knew what was in a man."

(John 2:24-25)

<u>I think we forget that: (in our fallen world)</u>

- 1. Love is the miracle.
- 2. Grace is amazing.
- 3. Humility is supernatural.
 - 4. Loyalty is a luxury.

2. We get bitter when we expect so little from God.

When I decided to follow Jesus, I lost the right to pass onto others what people did to me.

"You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' But I tell you, do not resist an evil person... "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven."

(Matthew 5:38, 43-44)

"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

(Romans 12:21)

"Freely you have received, freely give"

(Matthew 10:8)

"Lord, don't charge them with this sin."

(Acts 7:60)

"Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had on you?"

(Matthew 18:34)

"A new command I give you: Love (agape) one another. As I have loved (agape) you, so you must love (agape) one another."

(John 13:34)

"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her...."

(Ephesians 5:25)