

The Only Answer to Offense

Scripture:

"Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

— Colossians 3:13 (NIV)

Main Truth:

Offense is inevitable—but how we respond determines whether we stay bound or walk in freedom. The only healing path is forgiveness.

Key Points:

- Offense is a wound that won't heal on its own—it demands a response.
- Forgiveness is the only answer that brings peace instead of poison.
- Forgiveness is not forgetting or denying the hurt—it's choosing to hand it to God so it no longer controls you.
- Unforgiveness leads to bitterness, isolation, and a restless heart.
- Jesus modeled radical forgiveness from the cross—because freedom matters more than revenge.

Reflection Question:

Is there an offense still lingering in your heart—replaying in your mind or creating distance in your relationships?

Take Action:

Give it to God. Forgive. Not because they deserve it—but because you deserve peace.

Prayer:

Father, I confess there are wounds I've held onto—offenses that have lived in my heart too long. I don't want to carry them anymore. Today, I choose to forgive. Help me release the pain to You. Heal what's broken and give me the strength to live in the freedom of Your grace. In Jesus' name, Amen.