



**9/29/19**  
**CLICKBAIT**

## **BIG IDEA**

We are surrounded by attractive titles that do not deliver - on social media, in the press and in life. Being offended is clickbait and easily offended or not, God says offense will come. Offense is the bait in the trap that leads us to betray those we are closest to and let love grow cold toward them. The strategy to avoid the trap of offense is to be alert to the bait and stand firm against it. To escape when we've fallen into the trap, pray for your offender, recognize and rid yourself of a victim mentality, release the offender from the debt they owe you, and receive God's gift of grace.

## **SCRIPTURES USED IN THE MESSAGE**

- Luke 17:1 (NKJV)
- Matthew 24:10 (NKJV)
- Mathhew 24:12 (NKJV)
- I Corinthians 13:4-7
- I Peter 5:8
- Galatians 5:1
- Matthew 5:44 (CEV)
- Romans 2:4
- Romans 8:37
- Luke 6:37

## **TALK IT OVER**

Choose questions that keep the discussion moving. No need to discuss every question.

- What from the message stood out to you?
- From the list of love's actions in I Corinthians 13:4-7, what is the easiest for you and what is hardest for you?
- What strategy do you use to avoid taking the bait of offense?

## **APPLICATION IDEAS**

- Make a list of those who have offended you and one by one, ask God to give them the things you would want for your own life.

[Leaders, supply paper and pens and invite people to make the list before they leave group. If appropriate, spend time praying specific blessings over each of the listed people, making sure the offended are praying for their offenders.]

## **PRAYER FOCUS**

At Crossroads, we pray believing God hears and answers us. Make time in every group meeting to pray for one another and the larger matters of concern to your group.

- Ask God to heal the hurts that have happened to you and choose to refuse offense.
- Pray daily for those who have offended you, forgive them, release them and receive grace.

## **LEADER TIPS**

- It's wise to plan a fun outing for your group if you're not a group that already does fun things together. If someone in the group seems to have an interest in that, invite them to plan the activity on your behalf for the group. Some groups go bowling, go to a movie, or do miniature golf. Keep the price within the means of members as much as possible.