

# **DELAYED BY OFFENCE**

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## **1. OFFENCE IS THE BAIT OF SATAN**

- 1.1. Satan has one bait, that bait is offence.
- 1.2. The word “offended” come from the Greek word “Skandalon”, which means to ensnare or to entrap.
- 1.3. The bait of offence is part of a trap.  
**Proverbs 1:17 (NLT ) “If a bird sees a trap being set, it knows to stay away.”**
- 1.4. The trap Satan sets is designed to make us stumble.

## **2. OFFENCE IS INEVITABLE**

- 2.1. There is no way to avoid the stumbling block of offence.  
**Luke 17:1 “It is impossible for offences not to come.”**
- 2.2. You can't live in this world without being offended.
- 2.3. The issue is not whether you will or will not be offended, the issue is **how you will respond to offence.**

## **3. HOW TO HANDLE TWO KINDS OF OFFENCE**

- 3.1. If you are offended by God – You must repent.
- 3.2. If you are offended by others – You must forgive.

## **4. HOW TO HANDLE OFFENCE FROM OTHERS:**

**Luke 17:1-5 (NKJV) “Then He said to the disciples, “It is impossible that no offenses should come, but woe to him through whom they do come! It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones. Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, ‘I repent,’ you shall forgive him.”**

- 4.1. We can't avoid offence, but we can watch out for it.
- 4.2. If someone offence you, you have to forgive.
- 4.3. We must ask God to increase our faith to help us deal with offence.

## **5. CONCLUSION:**

- 5.1.** The time is ripe to disciple the nations and teach them what God's love looks like.
- 5.2.** But before we can minister to others, we have to pass the test ourselves.
- 5.3.** It's time to follow Jesus' example; the One who suffered the offence of the cross and still say...

**Luke 23:34 "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."**

**Mark 11:24-25 "I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you've received it, it will be yours. But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too."**

## **Sermon Discussion Guide**

### **Delayed by Offence**

**OPEN YOUR GROUP WITH A PRAYER. THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE – SELECT THE POINTS YOU WANT TO DISCUSS.**

1. Have you ever been caught in the trap of being offended by others? Have you forgiven the people who offended you?
2. Have you ever been offended by God? Have you repented?
3. How has the trap of offence delayed you "acceleration"?