

**Series: I Don't Do Alone**  
**Unoffendable: Breaking the Stronghold of Offense (Pt. 1)**

October 9, 2022

Hebrews 10:22-25; 12:15 | Luke 17:1 | Psalm 55:12-14; 147:3 | Proverbs 18:19  
Matthew 5:43-48 | 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 | 1 John 1:8-9

I must be unoffendable. What is offense?

Two ways I receive offense:

1. I have been treated unjustly.
  
2. I believe they have been treated unjustly.

What I do with offense creates the stronghold.

Breaking Strongholds of Offense:

1. The Power of the Spirit to Reveal
  - Call things what they are.
  - Go deeper to unroot.
  - Don't stop.

2. Forgiveness Breaks Strongholds

What forgiveness is not:

1. Justifying their actions.
2. Trusting the passage of time.
3. Denying that you are hurt.
4. Confronting personally.

3. Healing the Wound

**Life Group Study**

For week of October 9, 2022

*Many of our Life Groups use this insert as a discussion guide throughout the week. We encourage you to take that next step in your journey with Jesus & His church by joining one today! <https://rlc.pub/groups>*

**Share your story**

What insight, question, or resolution did you discover as we worshiped the Lord together this past Sunday?

What is one thing that you tend to get offended over easier than others? Why do you think this is?

**Connect to God's story**

**Read Psalm 139:1-6 & 139:23-24.**

*As sure as the sunrise, offenses will happen. Have you asked the Lord to reveal the hurts in your heart? Why do you think we may not like to ask this question?*

Have you asked him to reveal what ways you've offended him or others? Why do you think it would be important to begin the healing process this way?

**Read Ephesians 4:31-32 & Colossians 3:12-15.**

What are we to cast off? Why do you think it's important to rid ourselves of these things?

What are the things we're instructed to put on instead? Do kindness, patience, humility, gentleness, etc. just happen? Have you ever thought of these things as what you actively do? How can re-thinking this way help you in your relationships?

Why does Paul say we must forgive others? What is so important about forgiveness?

### **Read Matthew 5:44.**

What should we do when we've been offended? Have you done this for someone who's offended you? Why does this help?

*Steps to help you forgive offense:*

1. **ALWAYS** give this concern to the Lord. (1 Peter 5:6-7)
2. **SOMETIMES** overlook the offense. (Proverbs 19:11)
3. **SOMETIMES** point out the offense. (Matthew 18:15)
4. **ALWAYS** refuse to take revenge. (Romans 12:19; Luke 17:4)

*Discerning how you should respond and relate with people will take effort to lean into the wisdom of the Lord through prayer. It can be difficult but the Holy Spirit's counsel and leading is faithful and trustworthy!*

### **Read Luke 7:36-50.**

What is the important truth Jesus wants us and the Pharisee to learn from this story? How can our realizing just how much Jesus forgave us help us in how we act toward others?

*Take some time reflecting on what Jesus did for you and me and the great power of the cross. (1 Peter 2:24 & Ephesians 2:16-18) Think on his love and forgiveness as he brought us into one multi-ethnic family through His great sacrifice and pour out thankful worship to Him!*

## **THE PURPOSE OF LIFE GROUPS**

*Life Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful relationships with Jesus and each other through the study of God's Word (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24-25).*

Here's how we accomplish this in our community throughout the week:

### **SHARE**

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

### **STUDY**

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life by following Jesus.

### **SUPPORT**

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another and meeting real needs.

### **SERVE**

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (Ephesians 4:11-16).

Throughout the Life Group session, it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways the Father has designed you to serve and make a difference in His kingdom as He conforms you to the image of His Son! (Romans 8:28-30)