OFFENSE

Matthew 18:6-7

- "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.
- ⁷Woe to the world because of offenses! For offenses must come, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes!

Woe:

 Misery, sorrow, distress, wretchedness, sadness, unhappiness, heartache, heartbreak, despondency, despair, depression, regret, gloom, melancholy. The damage of offense doesn't only fall on the one who CAUSED the offense but, on the one CARRYING the offense as well.

OFFENSE CAN GROW FROM A PLACE THAT IS ROOTED FROM SOMETHING ELSE:

- 1. Hurt
- 2. Anger
- 3. Jealousy
- 4. Envy
- 5. Resentment
- 6. Bitterness
- 7. Hatred

THE TRUTH ABOUT OFFENSE:

- 1. Offense is personal.
- 2. Offense is prevalent in families.
- 3. Offense is prevalent in Church families.
- 4. Offense will keep you up at night.
- 5. Offense is hard to let go of.
- 6. Offense interrupts our relationship with God.
- 7. Offense is Satan's most effective tactic to keep you from what God has promised you.
- 8. Offense is a choice.

WHAT TO STOP DOING:

- 1. Stop justifying it.
- 2. Stop rehearsing it.
- 3. Stop discussing it.

WHAT TO START DOING:

- 1. Love them.
- 2. Bless them.
- 3. Do good to them.
- 4. Pray for them.

Matt. 18:15-17

Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him ALONE: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. ¹⁶ But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or

two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

¹⁷ And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

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