

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

What is one thing everyone in my group should know about me?

- 1. Pastor Tom begins the message with this question: "Is it actually possible to live an unoffendable life?" What were your initial thoughts?
- 2. <u>James 1:19</u> lays out an order for relationships moving from being quick to listen to being slow to speak then still moving slowly to anger. What does your pattern look like?
- 3. What issue(s) in your life consistently resist your best efforts to bring them into God's plan for relationships?
- 4. Read <u>James 1:19-20</u> and <u>Matthew 22:34-40</u>. How does your current attitude about anger line up with these passages, and as you think about your anger, how much of it is related to God vs. others?
- 5. What are some of the practical takeaways for daily living, God's way, as you read 1 Peter 2:12, 3:15-16, 2 Peter 3:9?
- 6. How can we each take a step towards getting <u>James 1:19</u> in the right order in our lives this week?

If you are not part of a small group, participate in **GROUP**LINK today after the service! (In Big Lake, head to the Cafe; in Sauk Rapids, head to the foyer; online - go to MYRC.CHURCH/GROUPFINDER)

Pick up your copy of *Unoffendable* if you haven't already done so. You don't have to read anything before your group meets this week.

WEEKLY READING





MY**RC.**CHURCH



"YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

We live in a world where people are constantly either in the of
being offended, or looking for a way to be offended.
One of the reasons so many people are so is that they are so easily offended.
Is it actually possible to an unoffendable life?
1. Do We Have Things?
Note <u>James 1:19</u>
Very few people are listening, most people are quick to share their opinions
and out whatever thoughts enter into their brains, and anger
is on display everywhere.
many locus followers have
many Jesus followers have this same approach to life, relationships, and social interactions.
Many of us have ourbut anger about our issue
when other people aren't as angry about this issue as
we think they should be.
What's even worse is the next level so many people go to is to actually start
to enjoy being angry.
Anger is attractive because it feeds our sense of beingsuperior.
superior.
2. How is Your Anger?
Is your anger making you more like?
Is it pointing others to what a wonderful
Jesus can make in our lives?
Is it making you more and loving?

Note <u>James 1:19-20</u> While there's probably such a thing as righteous hatred for something that God's heart; the reality is our so-called <i>righteous</i> anger is always about someone else's (it's more accuratelyrighteous anger).
Note Matthew 22:34-40
I don't have to be to do these things.
You don't have to be to love God and others.
In fact, is it even possible for you and me to demonstrate love and grace to others and be angry? Note 1 Peter 2:12; 3:15-16; 2 Peter 3:9.
CAN I LIVE AN UNOFFENDABLE LIFE?:

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey! Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital* or hard copy).

So is ______ in the right order in your life?
Is your _____ making you more or less like Jesus?

*MyRC.link/connect or text riverside to 94000

• There's a better way to live...





"YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

We live in a world where people are constantly either in the <u>state</u> of being offended, or looking for a way to be offended.

One of the reasons so many people are so <u>angry</u> is that they are so easily offended.

Is it actually possible to live an unoffendable life?

1. Do We Have Things Mixed Up?

Note James 1:19

Very few people are listening, most people are quick to share their opinions and <u>spew</u> out whatever thoughts enter into their brains, and anger is on display everywhere.

...many Jesus followers have <u>adopted</u> this same approach to life, relationships, and social interactions.

Many of us have our <u>issue</u>...but anger about our <u>issue escalates</u> when other people aren't as angry about this issue as we think they should be.

What's even worse is the next level so many people go to is to actually start to enjoy being <u>perpetually</u> angry.

Anger is attractive because it feeds our sense of being <u>morally</u> superior.

2. How Effective is Your Anger?

- Is your anger making you more like <u>Jesus</u>?
- Is it pointing others to what a wonderful <u>transformation</u> Jesus can make in our lives?
- Is it making you more joyful and loving?

Note <u>James 1:19-20</u>

While there's probably such a thing as righteous hatred for something that <u>breaks</u> God's heart; the reality is our so-called *righteous anger* is always about someone else's <u>sin</u> (it's more accurately <u>self-righteous anger...</u>).

Note Matthew 22:34-40

I don't have to be <u>angry</u> to do these things.

You don't have to be ticked off to love God and others.

In fact, is it even possible for you and me to demonstrate <u>consistent</u> love and grace to others and be angry?

Note <u>1 Peter 2:12</u>; <u>3:15-16</u>; <u>2 Peter 3:9</u>.

CAN I LIVE AN UNOFFENDABLE LIFE?:

- So is <u>James 1:19</u> in the right order in your life?
- Is your anger making you more or less like Jesus?
- There's a better way to live...

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey! Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital* or hard copy).

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