

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

What were the best and worst things from your week...? (We want to celebrate with you and encourage you!)

- 1. What are three things from chapters 1-4 of Unoffendable that will change how you think, act, react or see the people around you this week?
- 2. Read <u>James 1:19-20</u>. How does God's desired outcome differ from what our human anger generally produces?
- While anger can be the result of any number of things, <u>Ephesians</u> <u>4:26-27</u> tells us what its result always is. How can you identify and disarm your triggers, denying Satan a foothold in your life? (See your message notes for a list of triggers.)
- 4. Pastor Tom walked us through the progression of anger found in <u>Ephesians 4:31</u>. Take some time to talk through the six steps and how you can recognize them in yourself.
- 5. What is your natural response to anger (express it, suppress it, repress it or confess it) and what steps, with hindsight, should you be taking towards the confess it option?
- 6. In the message, Pastor Tom challenged us to lower our expectations of others (<u>2 Timothy 3:1-5a</u>) and raise our gratitude for God's grace (<u>Ephesians 2:8-9</u>). Which of these will you be working on 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 <u>MYRC.CHURCH/GROUPFINDER</u>)

Read Chapters 1-4 (pages 1-29) of **Unoffendable** before you go to small group.

WEEKLY READING





MYRC.CHURCH



"BOILING POINT"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

...we live in a _____ *Culture* world where people are constantly either in the state of being offended, or looking for a way to be offended. Is it _____ possible to live an unoffendable life?

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

Anger doesn't happen in _____; it's usually triggered by something else.

1. What _____? (note Ephesians 4:26-27)

- A ______. Emotional hurts are often tough to cope with and they become a ______ _____ for anger.
- B. ______. Over a long period of time, lots of worry produces fear, lots of fear produces anger... and the results are usually lots of ______. (Carty)
- C. _____ or perceived.
- 2. The _____ of Anger
- Anger has a _____ progression (note Ephesians 4:31).
- _____ (note <u>Hebrews 12:15</u>)
- Rage/wrath = hot _____
- _____ = flaring-up
- _____
- _____
- •

Anger greases the skids to the _____ of unforgiveness. When an unforgiving spirit is present, then people get _____.

- 3. ________ to Anger

 A ________ it

 B _________ it

 C ________ it

 D _______ Cadla wards
- D. God's way = _____ it get God's _____ (note <u>Numbers 16:15</u>).

4. How Can We Learn to _____ of Anger?

- A ______ your expectations of others imperfect people are ______ consistent in being imperfect, including how they relate to you. Note <u>2 Timothy 3:1-5a</u>. Jesus was never ______ that sinners sin. We all ______.
- B. ______ your gratitude for God's grace How many of us
 ______ God's love? What does God ______ you and me?
 Note Ephesians 2:8-9; John 8:3-11...It's time to drop your _____.

CAN I LIVE AN UNOFFENDABLE LIFE?:

(Ephesians 4:31-32, PHILLIPS) - Let there be no resentment, no more _______ or temper, no more violent self-assertiveness, no more slander and no more malicious remarks. Be kind to each other, be understanding. Be as ready to forgive others as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you.

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).

*MyRC.link/connect or text riverside to 94000



SMALL GROUP guide on the back



BOILING POINT"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

...we live in a <u>Cancel</u> Culture world where people are constantly either in the state of being offended, or looking for a way to be offended. Is it <u>actually</u> possible to live an unoffendable life?

Note James 1:19-20

Anger doesn't happen in *isolation*; it's usually triggered by something else.

1. What <u>Sets Me Off</u>? (note <u>Ephesians 4:26-27</u>)

- A. <u>Hurt</u> anger can be a <u>reflex</u>. Emotional hurts are often tough to cope with and they become a <u>breeding ground</u> for anger.
- B. <u>Fear</u> anger often follows fear <u>closely</u>. Over a long period of time, lots of worry produces fear, lots of fear produces anger... and the results are usually lots of <u>footholds</u>. (Carty)
- C. <u>Frustration</u>
- D. <u>Injustice</u> <u>real</u> or perceived.

2. The <u>Journey</u> of Anger

Anger has a <u>definable</u> progression (note <u>Ephesians 4:31</u>).

- <u>Bitterness</u> (note <u>Hebrews 12:15</u>)
- Rage/wrath = hot <u>coals</u>
- <u>Anger</u> = flaring-up
- <u>Brawling</u>
- <u>Slander</u>
- <u>Malice</u>

Anger greases the skids to the <u>morass</u> of unforgiveness. When an unforgiving spirit is present, then people get <u>hurt</u>.

3. <u>Responses</u> to Anger

- A. <u>Express</u> it
- B. <u>Suppress</u> it
- C. <u>Repress</u> it
- D. God's way = <u>Confess</u> it get God's <u>perspective</u> (note <u>Numbers 16:15</u>).

4. How Can We Learn to Let Go of Anger?

- Lower your expectations of others imperfect people are <u>perfectly</u> consistent in being imperfect, including how they relate to you. Note <u>2 Timothy 3:1-5a</u>. Jesus was never <u>shocked</u> that sinners sin. We all <u>mess up</u>.
- <u>Raise</u> your gratitude for God's grace How many of us <u>deserve</u>
 God's love? What does God <u>owe</u> you and me? Note <u>Ephesians 2:8-9</u>;
 <u>John 8:3-11</u>...It's time to drop your <u>stone</u>.

CAN I LIVE AN UNOFFENDABLE LIFE?:

(Ephesians 4:31-32, PHILLIPS) - Let there be no resentment, no more anger or temper, no more violent self-assertiveness, no more slander and no more malicious remarks. Be kind to each other, be understanding. Be as ready to forgive others as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you.

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