

SG

Your group matters.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

Share a hobby, interest or dabbling you have that no one else in the room (besides family) knows about.

1. On pages 140-141, the author says, “forgiveness means sacrifice” and that for forgiveness to happen the one who has been hurt has to “pay again”. How does this make you feel and why?
2. Pastor Tom showed us in the life of Joseph that the thing that needs to be sacrificed (surrendered to God) is our hurt, or we will be weighed down with anger, bitterness, and unresolved emotional issues. Share how you have experienced this to be true in your own life, and how you have tried to resolve it.
3. Joseph proved that forgiving others sets us free to not just survive, but to thrive. Think of a time when you were hurt by someone else. How would (did) choosing to forgive set you free emotionally, spiritually, or relationally?
4. Read [Genesis 45:5-8](#) & [Romans 8:28-29](#). Pastor Tom indicated that part of what made Joseph able to forgive more readily was his perspective of God’s sovereign hand over the entirety of his life – even the hurts and injustices he experienced. How can this perspective help you forgive the hurts and injustices in your life?
5. Pastor Tom said that forgiveness happens in steps: the choice to “Forgive”, the process of “Forgiving”, and the final resolution of “Forgiven”. Think of a hurt that needs to be forgiven for you to move into freedom. Where are you in the process of forgiveness and what is your next step? How can we encourage your follow through?

If you are not part of a small group, it's not too late to join one. Go to [MYRC.CHURCH/GROUPFINDER](https://myrc.church/groupfinder) and email a leader today!

WEEKLY READING

Read Chapters 17-20 (pages 131-161) of **Unoffendable** before you go to small group.



RIVERSIDE CHURCH



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE...

UNOFFENDABLE?

OCTOBER 16, 2022

MYRC.CHURCH



MESSAGE NOTES

"WHEN FORGIVING SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

Is it actually possible to _____ an unoffendable _____?
Too many of us have unforgiveness become the _____ factor in our lives, which make our lives heavy and cynical, and fill our relationships with _____.

The _____ to freedom and experiencing a more unoffendable life goes through the door of forgiveness.

Forgiveness means:

1. I _____ My Hurts to a Sovereign God

- A. Born in a _____ family (note [Genesis 37](#)).
- B. _____ by his brothers (note [Genesis 37](#)).
- C. _____ to a foreign country (note [Genesis 37](#)).
- D. Sold into slavery (note [Genesis 39](#)).
- E. _____ accused of rape (note [Genesis 39](#)).
- F. Sent to prison unjustly (note [Genesis 39](#)).
- G. _____ by a "friend" (note [Genesis 40:14-15, 23; 41:1](#)).

These things create anger that we end up carrying...and they produce bitterness and _____ emotional and social issues that often turn us against people and even God.

2. I Live in the Hope of Today, Not the _____ of Yesterday

- A. He _____.
- B. He _____.
- C. He _____.
- D. He waited.
- E. He _____ (note [Genesis 41:51-52; Hebrews 10:36](#)).

Keep doing the right things for the right reasons, and God _____ in the midst of our circumstances.

3. There's Something to _____, to Do, and to Not Do

- A. What Joseph knew = nothing comes into our lives by _____ (note [Genesis 45:5-8](#)). Therefore we are never victims (note [Romans 8:28-29](#)). The comparatively small evil plans aimed at us do not have the power to _____ God's large, good plan for our lives unless we let it.
- B. What Joseph did = he _____ those who cursed him (note [Genesis 45:9-13; Romans 12:14, 21; Matthew 5:43-48](#)).
- C. What Joseph refused to do = take _____ (note [Genesis 50:15-21; Romans 12:17-21](#)). I need to choose to forgive (_____) those who have hurt me from the payback they deserve because Jesus has done that for me (note [Matthew 6:14-15](#)).

CAN I LIVE AN UNOFFENDABLE LIFE?:

- Choose to forgive the person(s) who have hurt you.
- Forgiveness is a process of steps - Forgive (_____); Forgiving (_____); Forgiven (_____).
- Forgiveness does not equal _____.
- Forgiveness is _____.
- Trust is _____.
- Begin to pray daily for God to bless the person(s) who hurt you (____ days).

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



MESSAGE NOTES

"WHEN FORGIVING SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

Is it actually possible to experience an unoffendable life?

Too many of us have unforgiveness become the defining factor in our lives, which make our lives heavy and cynical, and fill our relationships with tension.

The journey to freedom and experiencing a more unoffendable life goes through the door of forgiveness.

Forgiveness means:

1. I Surrender My Hurts to a Sovereign God

- A. Born in a dysfunctional family (note [Genesis 37](#)).
- B. Rejected by his brothers (note [Genesis 37](#)).
- C. Abandoned to a foreign country (note [Genesis 37](#)).
- D. Sold into slavery (note [Genesis 39](#)).
- E. Falsely accused of rape (note [Genesis 39](#)).
- F. Sent to prison unjustly (note [Genesis 39](#)).
- G. Forgotten by a "friend" (note [Genesis 40:14-15, 23; 41:1](#)).

These things create anger that we end up carrying...and they produce bitterness and unresolved emotional and social issues that often turn us against people and even God.

2. I Live in the Hope of Today, Not the Hurt of Yesterday

- A. He survived.
- B. He thrived.
- C. He resisted.
- D. He waited.
- E. He grew (note [Genesis 41:51-52; Hebrews 10:36](#)).

Keep doing the right things for the right reasons, and God changes us in the midst of our circumstances.

3. There's Something to Know, to Do, and to Not Do

- A. What Joseph knew = nothing comes into our lives by accident (note [Genesis 45:5-8](#)). Therefore we are never victims (note [Romans 8:28-29](#)). The comparatively small evil plans aimed at us do not have the power to ruin God's large, good plan for our lives unless we let it.
- B. What Joseph did = he blessed those who cursed him (note [Genesis 45:9-13; Romans 12:14, 21; Matthew 5:43-48](#)).
- C. What Joseph refused to do = take revenge (note [Genesis 50:15-21; Romans 12:17-21](#)). I need to choose to forgive (release) those who have hurt me from the payback they deserve because Jesus has done that for me (note [Matthew 6:14-15](#)).

CAN I LIVE AN UNOFFENDABLE LIFE?:

- Choose to forgive the person(s) who have hurt you.
- Forgiveness is a process of steps - Forgive (choice); Forgiving (process); Forgiven (resolution).
- Forgiveness does not equal trust.
- Forgiveness is free.
- Trust is earned.
- Begin to pray daily for God to bless the person(s) who hurt you (30 days).

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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