

LOVE. NO MATTER WHAT

You Can't Offend Me
January 11-12, 2020

Proverbs 19:11 (TPT)

A wise person demonstrates patience, for mercy means holding your tongue. When you are insulted, be quick to forgive and forget it, for you are virtuous when you overlook an offense.

You Can't Offend Me

The Top 5 Offenses (mostly among Christians)

1. You can't offend me.
2. Your sexual orientation offends me.
3. Your politics offend me.
4. Your environmental perspective offends me.
5. Your reproductive choices offend me.

Matthew 11:6 (ESV)

"And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

Luke 6:27-36 (NLT)

"But to you who are willing to listen, I say, love your enemies! Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, offer the other cheek also. If someone demands your coat, offer your shirt also. Give to anyone who asks; and when things are taken away from you, don't try to get them back. Do to others as you would like them to do to you. If you love only those who love you, why should you get credit for that? Even sinners love those who love them! And if you do good only to those who do good to you, why should you get credit? Even sinners do that much! And if you lend money only to those who can repay you, why should you get credit? Even sinners will lend to other sinners for a full return. Love your enemies! Do good to them. Lend to them without expecting to be repaid. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as children of the Most High, for he is kind to those who are unthankful and wicked. You must be compassionate, just as your Father is compassionate."

I can choose to be unoffendable if I:

- Realize anger is a sinful reaction, not a godly response.

1 Corinthians 2:14, 15 (TPT)

Someone living on an entirely human level rejects the revelations of God's Spirit, for they make no sense to him. He can't understand the revelations of the Spirit because they are only discovered by the illumination of the Spirit. Those who live in the Spirit are able to carefully evaluate all things, and they are subject to the scrutiny of no one but God.

Ephesians 4:25-27 (NLT)

So stop telling lies. Let us tell our neighbors the truth, for we are all parts of the same body. And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, for anger gives a foothold to the devil.

Ephesians 4:31 (NLT)

Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior.

- Remember to give others the same grace I expect to receive.

Proverbs 16:2 (TPT)

We are all in love with our own opinions, convinced they're correct. But the Lord is in the midst of us, testing and probing our every motive.

- Respond righteously by forgiving and refusing to remain angry.

James 1:20 (ESV)

...for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Colossians 3:8 (NCV)

But now also put these things out of your life: anger, bad temper, doing or saying things to hurt others, and using evil words when you talk.

Unoffendable checklist for Love No Matter What series

When tempted to be offended, I must:

1. Examine my heart immediately.
2. Assume the best about the person.
3. Remember I don't have all the facts.
4. Refuse to go to others and gossip or slander.
5. Give grace to the offender, as if you were that person.
6. Never be offended or angry at a non-believer.
7. Seek to understand the reasons and motives for the offense.
8. Pray for the person – consistently and compassionately.
9. Live peacefully, as much as it depends on you.

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