

MY OFFENSE

"An offended friend is harder to win back than a fortified city. Arguments separate friends like a gate locked with bars." – Proverbs 18:19 NLT

DAVID'S STORY

Stuff happens all day, every day, to get us into a frustration zone: traffic, kids, deadlines, and so on. That's part of life. Most of the time, we get over it. But sometimes, people are just downright mean. They are unfair, and they cause an offense. Try as we might, we just can't "get over it."

If you find yourself talking to this person in your head at various times throughout your day and avoiding them at the grocery store, well, you've got a forgiveness problem. God makes it clear that unforgiveness is an important issue that can lead to chastisement, discipline, and even disqualification from our calling and God's kingdom.

A TOXIC PARADOX

My offense came from a most unlikely person: my pastor and boss. (I was on staff at the church at the time.) The very person who should have been considerate and loving in his actions towards me, wasn't. Over many years his subtle rejection of me just kept building up until a seed of bitterness took root in me. Eventually it bore the ungodly fruit of unforgiveness. The unforgiveness part was entirely my fault, not his.

MY BREAKTHROUGH

I finally got free by using the same 4 steps of forgiveness I will be teaching you in this Freedom Summit! It was step #4 that finally did the trick.

"Then He said to the disciples, 'It is impossible that no offenses should come, but woe to him through whom they do come.'" – Luke 17:1

Since it is inevitable that we collide with offenses sooner or later, we need to have ready the tools to deal effectively with them. If you are struggling with unforgiveness right now, take heart: this session will help! Life is just too short to imprison yourself in a cell block of offense.

