

OFFENSES IN MARRIAGE/RELATIONSHIPS

Pastor Ted Bichsel

Recordings of this and many other great marriage/relationship teachings:

www.sgtmarriages.com

02-05-12

OFFENSES – PART 5

**HIDING FROM REALITY>
TRANSFORMATION**

John Bevere teaching



SCRIPTURES FOR NOTES

1 Peter 4:1-4

4 Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. **2 As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.** 3 For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do — living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. NIV

WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?

How does being justified in a situation look after this teaching?
Does he advocate a doormat life style?



Luke 6:32-36 I Love Him Anyway

32 "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' love those who love them. 33 And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' do that. 34 And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' lend to 'sinners,' expecting to be repaid in full. 35 But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. 36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. NIV

- Where do you draw the line?
 - When the Lord tells you to...this will be beyond your own ability and personal "offense" level.
 - This is about releasing your hands and giving the entire situation into His hands. THEN you will be able to know and understand what the right thing is to do. His vision is birthed in your heart and transforms your thoughts and actions. Your vision is now transformed and you see the missing piece in the Holy Spirit puzzle. Salvation? Repentance? Compassion of Christ? Forgiveness?
- You cannot see the reward without a renewed heart and sight. That is His first focus.
- The Word reminds us about radical living vs. just "nice" living.

➤ Matt 25:38-40 The Offense Doors that God Opens

38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' 40 "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' NIV

- An offense in a marriage can awaken us to the need(s) a person has. From the overflow of the heart we speak....sometimes that heart is hurting> feeling trapped> hungry> naked.
- Your identity as an individual or a couple can be shaped and defined by offenses or the ministry to the “least”.
 - Unforgiveness, past hurts, distrust
 - A God imparted vision releases you to understand the big picture of how God is using the offense to grow you closer as a couple, and stronger as an individual.
 - Rom 5:3-4> 3 Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; **4 perseverance, character; and character, hope.** NIV

➤ **The Foundation for overcoming offenses in Marriage and Relationships**

○ Total Commitment

- All other relationships besides the marriage are secondary.
 - Parents, extended families, children, church friends, business associates, church relationships.
- No matter what and who offends either of us.

○ Unconditional Acceptance

- The reality of our wedding vows> better/worse, sickness/health, richer/poorer.
- Age and failures can cloud the acceptance.
- Health issues can “disfigure” the relationship and cause deep hurts.
- Acceptance blocks the entry of an offense.

○ Deep Trust

- Assume that even an “offensive word” has not been “cooked up” over time. Instead assume that we trust the relationship and the heart.
- The block to the offense comes when I can believe the heart of truth.

○ Endurance

- We are all being changed into His likeness....not yours.
- Together we realize that offenses can stop the forward movement as we press past what the enemy would release for us to stumble on.
- An “offensive season” may be passing by. Hold on until your spouse or friend realizes it and asks forgiveness.

○ Abiding Faith

- This is not about hanging on; it is about His word released into our heart perfectly matched for every situation.
- Abiding faith extends us beyond our spouse or friend into God’s plan. This may mean a faith walk alone, but it will be worth it.

○ Diligent Preparation

- The Word imparted into our lives in every situation
- Remove the “escape clause” from every situation. Spend time learning His way in every situation.> **THIS IS ABOUT OVERCOMING!**

