

**Love Your Enemies
and Bless those
Who Curse You?**

One of Satan's Most Effective Devices: Encouraging You to Sin When You're Offended

Common Ways We Can Get Offended

Social Media Posts

Personal Ridicule

Political Conversations

Religious Conversations

Being Excluded

Gossip about You

Being Criticized

Your Kids Being Criticized

Proverbs 19:11 (NASB) A man's discretion makes him slow to anger, And it is his glory to overlook a transgression.

Matthew 5:23-24 (NIV2011) ²³ "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

This doesn't mean we should be doormats or without boundaries, but that there are offenses we should overlook.

When it comes to others being offended by you, be humble and apologize swiftly even if you feel it is something that should not have offended them.

Are you controlling your anger and apologizing quickly?

What about those who attack you and are not sorry?

Matthew 5:10-12 (ESV) ¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

If you experience hardship for doing evil, there's no blessing in that, but suffering for serving God brings rewards from God.

You can't control everything that people say about you or do to you, but you can take comfort knowing that God always knows your heart.

Do you remember to pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering daily for His Name?

Matthew 5:43-45 (HCSB) ⁴³ "You have heard that it was said, Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.

⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. For He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

*This was a saying that twisted scripture - **Leviticus 19:18 (NKJV)** You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.*

Jesus lived this in His ministry and faithful disciples of Jesus live this even now. Who is in your life that could be viewed as an adversary? Are you willing to pray for them and treat them with respect and love?

Will you love like Jesus, Stephen, and Chris Carrier?

**From Victim to Victorious
through Jesus' Grace and Mercy**

**The True Story of
Chris Carrier**

Story from the itslikethis.org website