



Missing Out on the Miraculous

We can become so easily offended, and sad to say....Christians can be some of the most easily offended! This shouldn't be since we have the key to unlocking the answers to the questions of how to handle situations, conversation and people.

- Circle Time: What is the silliest thing you've witnessed someone take offense to?
 - What do you think are the contributing factors to the societal temperature we have found ourselves in where people seem to be offended much easier than ever before?
 - What are some things that offend you the most?
- Read the definition of offended.
 - *Offended:* Resentful or annoyed, typically as a result of a "perceived" insult.
 - How does this definition help you understand your emotions when you are offended?
- In his sermon Dave taught us that there are 3 losses when we live offended; Reality, Relationships, and the Miraculous. Can you think of any others?
- Reality:
 - Read John 16:33. How is Jesus instructing us to find peace? *Embrace the reality that you will have trouble*
 - How does embracing the reality of a life that includes trouble help you to not live offended? Why is it harder if you don't embrace this?
- Relationships:
 - Read Ephesians 4:1-6. When writing this letter Paul believed they were living in hopeless times. In these, passages how is Paul calling the church to live differently? *A worthy life was to be marked by Christlike qualities essential to church unity: humility, gentleness, patience, tolerance, love, and peacekeeping.*
- Miraculous:
 - Read Mark 6:1-6 Instead of being proud of Jesus they took offense at Him. Why?
 - Why did this stunt His ability to do miracles? *Jesus still had the power to do the miraculous what he could not do was compel acceptance...*
 - Where is there offense in you life that may be keeping you from accepting the power of God?