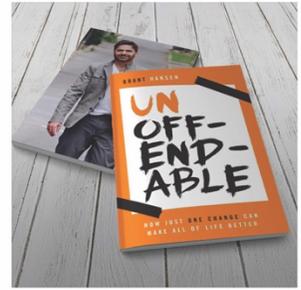


Unoffendable

Giving up your “right” to be offended can be one of the most freeing, healthy, simplifying, relaxing, refreshing, stress-relieving, encouraging things you can do. Radio host and author Brant Hansen will share why we should replace perpetual anger with refreshing humility and gratitude.



INTRODUCTION

Brant Hansen used humor and examples to show us why we shouldn't hold anger and why we should be gracious and forgiving even when it doesn't seem the other person deserves it.

STARTER QUESTION

Think about a time when someone was angry with you. How did it make you feel?

INTO THE WORD

1. The Bible has a lot to say about anger. Consider these scriptures: Ephesians 4:26-27, Ephesians 4:31, James 1:19-20, Ecclesiastes 7:9, Proverbs 29:11, Proverbs 22:24, and Colossians 3:8. Based on these scriptures and today's message, what type of anger can we consider righteous anger?
2. Refer to John 13:36-38 and then to the following passages in John 14:1-4. Brant suggested this morning that chapter 14 seemed to be “misplaced.” What was the point that Brant was trying to make when he said that? How does that relate to his overall message of being unoffendable?
3. Refer to Matthew 18:23-35. This is the parable of the unforgiving servant that Brant referred to this morning. A similar message can be found in 2 Timothy 1:9. What is the overall lesson to be learned from these scriptures and how do they compare to the passages in John 13 and 14 discussed in question #2?

APPLICATION

4. Brant Hansen spoke about loving our neighbors and forgiving them in a way that they don't deserve because of what Jesus has done for each of us through the cross and resurrection. Do you struggle with extending the grace and forgiveness that Christ has freely given you? Why is that so hard to practically implement?
5. What can we do in our lives daily to help us become unoffendable?

PRAYER

Father God, we come to you today to thank you for Brant Hansen's message. We know that our anger doesn't produce Your Righteousness. We ask you to fill us with love and patience. Help us keep from getting angry. Instead of anger, help us see our blessings and let us be grateful. Help us to live our lives as a reflection of Jesus. In Jesus name, Amen.

SUGGESTED ANSWER GUIDE / MORE FOOD FOR THOUGHT FOR SELECTED QUESTIONS

Question 1 - Only God's anger can be considered righteous (refer to James 1:20). We as humans must focus only on forgiving one another and not getting caught up in anger.

- Ephesians 4:26-27 – Do not stay angry; do not let it provoke you; do not let the devil win.
- Ephesians 4:31 – Get rid of anger.
- James 1:19-20 – Be slow to become angry – it will not produce what God wants.
- Ecclesiastes 7:9 – Anger is foolish.
- Proverbs 29:11 – Anger is foolish and not helpful.
- Proverbs 22:24 – Stay clear of angry people.
- Colossians 3:8 – Get rid of anger.

Question 2 – Brant's message was - John 13:36-38 is the passage where Jesus foretells that Peter will betray him, and then the following passage of John 14:1-4 is where Jesus promises to prepare a room for us in heaven... Jesus' promise seems out of place after knowing that Peter is going to betray him. Even so, He loves Peter, and He loves us, **and** He forgives us...even though we do not deserve it. Why would we not then forgive others knowing what Jesus has done for us?

Question 3 – The overall lesson is to “pay it forward.” God extends grace and forgiveness to us; therefore, we should extend the grace and forgiveness to others. It is what God wants us to do.

Question 4 - Pride is most often the root of the hesitation or unwillingness to extend the grace that Christ has given to us. I believe that we place an incredibly high value on not being taken advantage of, not being made to look stupid, or not being marginalized even in the slightest. We all have a desire to be known, understood, and heard as we move through this life and as conflict presents itself or the aforementioned values are challenged, we more often respond out of our flesh rather than in the power of the Holy Spirit living within us.

Scripture References

[1 Corinthians 6:19-20](#)

Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies.

[Jeremiah 9:23–24](#)

Thus says the Lord: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord.”

Question 5 - Study our Bible, put the principles given to us in scripture into practice in our lives by focusing on things important to God and by practicing forgiveness. (Refer to Matthew 6:25-34, Matthew 7:21, Matthew 18:21-35).