



Offense & Hurt in the Church

Offense

Definition: Annoyance or resentment brought about by a perceived insult or disregard for oneself or one's standards or principles. (Oxford Dictionary).

- Keyword: **Perception**

Offense & Hurt

“ We can track hurt, but we can't track offense

”

Hurt is a reaction to external actions, while **offense** is a choice we make based on our internal reactions.

“Hurt happens to us. Being offended is a choice made by us” Nicki Koziarz

The Danger of Hurt & Offense

- Anger
- Hatred
- Separation/Division
- Gossip
- Murder
- Bitterness
- Unhappiness
- Witchcraft
- Emotional distress
- Blurred perception

Bible

Matthew 24:10-12

And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

Luke 17:1

Then said he unto the disciples, It is impossible but that offences will come: but woe unto him, through whom they come!

Skandalizo

Properly: to set a trap

Figuratively: cause to stumble, cause to sin, cause to become indignant, shock.

Skandalon

The part of the trap on which the bait is attached.



Traps are set exactly where the animal must go

Traps only work if placed at the right place

Don't Stay in the Trap



Proverbs 18:19

“A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle.”

**“DEADLY EMOTIONS,
BURIED ALIVE, NEVER
DIE.”**

[JOYCE MEYER]



Matthew 5:44

“But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,”

- Express your feelings/ communicate
- Swallow your pride/deflate your ego
- Forgive
- Let go

The Spirit of Offense

“The spirit of offense is a demonic spirit that can attach itself to someone that is holding onto negative emotions in their heart like anger, bitterness, hate, pride, and especially unforgiveness. Those characteristics are a breeding ground for the spirit of offense” Erica Willis

“The spirit of offense is a master at making mountains out of molehills, and will then convince us we are justified when we insist on climbing the mountain we've made” Carolyn Moore