



**Week of September 24**  
**Unoffendable – A Crazy Idea?<sup>1</sup>**

**Overview:**

Would it surprise you to hear someone say, “We are not entitled to get offended or stay angry at other people”? That’s the premise of Brant Hansen’s book “Unoffendable.” Not only will you be challenged to love and forgive in ways you never imagined, you’ll also learn how Jesus’ teaching leads us toward a life of peace, justice, and flourishing. When you understand some of the physiological effects of anger, you’ll be more convinced that living “unoffendable” is not only possible, but desired.

**Group Objectives:**

***Relationships and Life Transformation are the primary purpose of community groups.***

- Reflect on this past Sunday’s message and other devotional reading.
- Pray together and provide encouragement for other group members.
- Identify one specific action you can take to show love for someone you previously avoided.

**DNA statement(s) tie-in:**

- *We are Empowered by the Holy Spirit.* The Holy Spirit within us enables us to live a life beyond belief – a life filled with joy, purpose, and power. We are empowered to live “unoffendable.”

**Conversation Starters:**

- Think of a recent time when you were strongly offended. Regardless of the outcome, what was the immediate impact on you, individually?
- What stood out to you from this week’s sermon?

**Listening to God**

- Where did you experience God last week? How were you able to join God on mission?

**Learning from God’s Word: Bible Study Discussion**

Choosing to be “unoffendable” starts with having the same perspective that Jesus has. Paul describes it as “do[ing] nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than [y]ourselves” (Phil 2:3). When we focus on seeing others as better than ourselves, we let go of the right to be offended at every person (or ideology) that differs from our own. We can trust God to do the judging and focus our actions on reflecting God’s love to those around us. Today’s text is often used for weddings, but it serves as a tangible reminder for everyone of what life looks like when we choose forgiveness over resentment and “bear all things” in love.

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<sup>1</sup> This discussion guide was adapted from Brant Hansen’s bible study guide for “Unoffendable,” and written by Dawn Gentry.

### **Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-8**

- What stood out to you from these verses as we read them?
- When have you been hurt because of another person's lack of love?
- What signs or symptoms might show us that we are trying to serve God without love?
  - What helps you serve from the motivation of love?
- Where do you see love being poured out in your church and/or in your community?
  - How can you join in this work this week?

### **Read Matthew 6:25-34**

- What commands do you notice in this passage? Which of these is hardest for you?
- Jesus identifies some specific sources of anxiety in this text – which are most likely to cause you stress or anxiety?
- What does it look like to “seek God's kingdom first” in your own life?

### **Leaning into Obedience:**

- How do you sense God calling you to respond to these passages?
  - Is there an example to follow? A command to obey?
- How can the group encourage you this week as you respond?

### **Prayer Prompts:**

- Invite members of the group to share requests.
- Allow time for silent reflection on the following prompts.
  - Invite the Holy Spirit to reveal opportunities to release anger.
- Read this prayer aloud and pause for people to “fill in the blank” silently.
  - *Lord Jesus, I confess that I became filled with anger when \_\_\_\_\_.*  
*I repent of the choice to hold onto that anger. By the power of your Holy Spirit, I choose today to let that anger go. I reject it, I release it, and I ask you to take that anger away from me. Amen.*

### **For further study:**

- Brant Hansen, *Unoffendable*. Brant has lots of online content available [here](#) and his podcast is available at <https://www.iheart.com/podcast/263-brant-sherri-oddcas-29945421/>
- Timothy Keller, *Forgive: Why Should I and How Can I?*
- Thomas A Kempis, *The Imitation of Christ*
- Bible Project videos: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/slow-to-anger/> and <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/gospel-kingdom/>