



Owasso First Assembly

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February 2, 2025

Refusing to be offended

Vault verse for January: Hebrews 12:1–2 (NLT) ¹ *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.* ² *We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne.*

Vault verse for February: Colossians 3:13 (NLT) *Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.*

1. A person easily offended does much damage to themselves, the Kingdom of God, and others.
2. Offense can happen accidentally or intentionally.
3. We should be careful not to offend others thoughtlessly. (Next sermon)
4. Jesus offended his hometown, the Pharisees, Sadducees, the disciples, and many others. They were offended because of their lack of understanding and resistance to truth.

Matthew 11:6 (ESV) *"And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."*

5. Overlooking an offense is a mark of spiritual maturity.

Proverbs 19:11 (ESV) *Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense.*

1. A person who is easily offended has damaged relationships.

Proverbs 18:19 (NLT) *An offended friend is harder to win back than a fortified city. Arguments separate friends like a gate locked with bars.*

2. The opportunity to be offended is omnipresent.

Matthew 18:7 (CSB) *Woe to the world because of offenses. For offenses will inevitably come, but woe to that person by whom the offense comes.*

Matthew 24:10 (NKJV) *And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.*

3. The most common cause of offense is insecurity fueled by imagination.

2 Sam 10.

4. An offended person is quickly an angry person.

Proverbs 12:16 (NLT) *A fool is quick-tempered, but a wise person stays calm when insulted.*

Ephesians 4:26–32 (NLT) ²⁶ And “don’t sin by letting anger control you.” Don’t let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ for anger gives a foothold to the devil. ²⁸ If you are a thief, quit stealing. Instead, use your hands for good hard work, and then give generously to others in need. ²⁹ Don’t use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them. ³⁰ And do not bring sorrow to God’s Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, he has identified you as his own, guaranteeing that you will be saved on the day of redemption. ³¹ **Get rid of all** bitterness, rage, **anger**, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. ³² Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

James 1:19–20 (NLT) ¹⁹ Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. ²⁰ Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires.

5. Love causes you to refuse to be offended.

Proverbs 17:9 (NIV84) *He who covers over an offense promotes love, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.*

Proverbs 10:12 (NLT) *Hatred stirs up quarrels, but love makes up for all offenses.*

1 Peter 4:8 (NLT) *Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins.*