

# How to Be Offended

## Part 1

## For Further Reflection and Discussion

*Opener: What's the best thing that happened to you during the last year?*

How did you encounter God at church this Sunday?

How realistic is it to say, "I'm not going to allow myself to be offended by others"?

- What about this is healthy and good?
- What potential dangers could there be in this?

When you feel offended, how can you tell whether it's a personal offense or something you feel on behalf of a friend?

- Should we be offended on behalf of people we care about? Why or why not?

If the offense isn't personal, what are some constructive responses to make?

- How do Proverbs 17:9 and 26:20 apply in this kind of situation?
- What does Paul's example in Philemon (e.g., vv. 17-19) demonstrate we should do?

If an offense is personal but it's not current (i.e., the person who offended you hasn't recently done or said anything offensive), why might you still feel that offense?

If that situation has been dealt with but those feelings of offense still come up, what should we do?

- How does I Corinthians 13:5 apply here?
- What other Scriptures or godly principles might apply?

Look at Proverbs 19:11. What is being urged here?

How would we know whether an offense can or should be overlooked, or if it should be confronted?

- What could happen if we overlook when we should have confronted?

How can we pray for one another?