

Unoffendable Part 5: What do you Desire?

Question: What do you desire the most? Of the 4 strongest human desires, the first 2 are obvious

(1) the will to stay alive

(2) the desire to procreate so that the human species stays around.

(3) Is the desire to give up when the going gets tough. To give up.

4) The desire to hold onto what we are not meant to Carry: Anger, Offense, & Unforgiveness

From the best we can understand. Human beings are the only creation that holds on to these stressors which can & most often leads to long term consequences: weight gain, skin changes, heart problems, etc.

WHAT IF YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIVE LIKE THIS? WHAT IF HOLDING ONTO Our Anger, Offenses, & Unforgiveness we are asked to Lay them at the Cross?

What can you Learn from Jesus about how it could be to Live into HIS DESIRES for you?

1. Matt 16:21-28 (24 -26 Focus): Deny Your Desire (John 14:6 Connection)

-What is Jesus telling us here? What if He is telling us that living INTO our OWN desires leads to death? ... relational, emotional, mental, physical (referenced earlier) What are you trying to hang onto? Hold onto? What do you think you have a right to?

-What if we gain freedom in turning every part of ourselves to Jesus? (Explain)

-What do you benefit from having a life filled with anger and offense? IS IT WORTH IT? What is it doing to your Soul?

DENY YOUR DESIRES and DESIRE HIS DESIRES

2. Identify with Jesus: Paul writes about this NEW IDENTIFICATION in **2 Cor 5:11-20 (13-20 Focus)** A new creation in Christ:

-What are your biggest obstacles that have hindered you from viewing the world thru forgiveness?

-What if you could develop a way of seeing things (perspective) that allows you to see the value in others, even people that anger you or offend you. Even the person you have not forgiven

-What if our extension of not holding onto Anger & Offense, Offering Forgiveness is one of the most Powerful Tasks/Expressions of the Kingdom?

Again- what if this is also an example of how we are to be Ambassadors of Reconciliation to others? OFFERING FOREGIVENESS with the hope that they we will RESPOND.

We cannot own/control their repentance, there confession. We can only own OUR PART: Forgiveness*Forgiveness does not mean there is not accountability for actions. Consequences

What desires are you called to own as a Christ- Follower?

Do you Desire to look at others thru the lens of Forgiveness? Do you care to be like Jesus in this way? Forgiveness is not easy, but it is far easier than a life of unforgiveness.

IDENTIFY WITH JESUS

How do you think God sees people, the very people that put Him on a Cross?

3. Luke 23:32-43 (34-43 Focus): Decide to look at people thru the Cross....

Romans 5:8

VERSE 34: Father Forgive them, for they know not what they do!

They knew they were Killing a man. They did not **KNOW/ACKNOWLEDGE HIM** as the KING OF KINGS & LORD OF LORDS- THE ONE GOD OF ALL That died for our Salvation, for our Freedom, for our Forgiveness of Sin that can ONLY BE FOUND IN HIM

In what ways did Jesus demonstrate radical forgiveness on the Cross?

39-43: Even in Excruciating Pain of Death- Jesus offers Forgiveness.

How can you choose to stay focused on the Cross when someone has wronged you?

Decide to look at people thru the Cross

We cannot be agents of healing in people's lives unless we are ready to bare their wounds for them and from them. Jesus has done this for us and is not separated from us.

ISAIAH 53

RESPONSE: Prayer For: A desire you need to give to Jesus. An offense, something you are Angry about. Something/Someone He is asking you to Deny of Yourself.

-Unforgiveness

-Someone you need to view from HIS perspective not your own.