

“When The Truth Offends....”

Lesson Text: **Matthew 15:7-12.**

I. How Can The Truth Offend Anyone?

– The Nature Of Truth- Matthew 10:34-36.

- Truth Is Objective— Not Subjective. **1 Corinthians 1:10; 4:17; 1 Corinthians 16:1.**
- Truth Is Exclusive— Not Inclusive. **1 Corinthians 15:12; Acts 4:12.**
- Truth Does Not Change— Not Changeable. **Deuteronomy 4:1-2; Revelation 22:18-19.**

– When People Don’t Like What Is Being Said.

- Many Don’t Like To Be Told They Are Wrong For Believing Something False.
- When Truth Exposes The Error Of What Others Believe Or Practice. **Ephesians 5:11.**
- Sometimes People Fall In Love With A Particular False Doctrine. **2 Thessalonians 2:12.**
- When Truth Goes Against The Long Accepted Beliefs Or The Majority’s Thinking.

– Bible Examples Of Those Who Were Offended By The Truth.

- **Matthew 15:1-6.**
- **Acts 4:1-2; Mark 12:18-27; Acts 23:8.**
- **Acts 17:5-8; 19:23-41.**
- **Mark 6:14-24.**
- **Galatians 4:16-17; 1:6-10.**

II. Ways That Truth Can Be Offensive Today.

– Preaching The God Of The Bible.

- **1 John 5:20.** Offends Those Who Believe In Many Gods Or No God.

– Preaching On The Lord’s Church.

- **Matthew 16:18; Colossians 1:18.** Offends Those Who Believe In Many Churches.

– Preaching On Righteousness.

- We Must Repent Of Sin- **Ephesians 4:22-24.** Offends The Sinner Who Loves Sin.

– Preaching On True Worship.

- **John 4:23-24; 19:22.** Offends Those Who Want Worship Their Own Way.

– Preaching On The Work & Organization Of The Church.

- **1 Peter 5:1-4; Ephesians 4:12.** Offends Those Who Change The Church’s Ways.

– Preaching On God’s Way Of Salvation.

- **Acts 16:31; Acts 17:30; Acts 8:34-39.** (Believe, Repent, Confess Christ, & Baptism).

III. Proper Attitudes Toward The Offended.

– Be Kind, Loving, And Humble- **Matthew 10:16; 11:29; Ephesians 4:15.**

– We May Have To Leave Them Alone- **Matthew 15:12-14.**

– We Need To Pray For Them- **2 Timothy 2:24-26.**

– Don’t Be Discouraged, But Stay Strong In The Lord- **1 Corinthians 16:13-14.**