

What Do we do in CULTURE of OFFENSE?

Matt 24:10-13 NKJV **10** And then many will be *offended*, will betray one another, and will hate one another. **11** Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. **12** And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. **13** But he who *endures* to the end shall be saved.

Luke 17:1 NKJV "Then He said to the disciples, "***It is impossible*** that no offenses should come...."
 Jesus Promises US... Offenses are Going to Come

"...but woe *to him* through whom they do come!

Difference Between an OFFENSE & BEING OFFENDED

AN OFFENSE:	BEING OFFENDED:
An Action that Happened	A REACTION to What Happened
An EVENT	A CHOICE
INEVITABLE	OPTIONAL

***GOOD NEWS: it IS possible for US to live ABOVE "OFFENSE"

BIG QUESTION: HOW easy is it for YOU to get OFFENDED? (If "OFFENDABILITY" were a Scale)

What if your Moment was on the Other Side of "A Fence"

Matt 15:21 NKJV **21** Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. **22** And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed."

#1 The OFFENSE of Being IGNORED

23 But He answered her not a word.

#2 The OFFENSE of the INSTITUTION

And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us."

24 But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

25 Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!"

#3 The OFFENSE of INSULT

26 But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw *it* to the little dogs."

27 And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."

28 Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great *is* your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." ***And her daughter was healed from that very hour.***

CHOICE is MINE:

Stumbling Block or Stepping Stone

SERIES: Stranger Stories

MESSAGE: Spirit of Offense

JESUS is still the LADDER