

# GETTING THE OFFENSE OUT

Part One

*For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.*

*Ephesians 6:12 NLT*

*See to it that no one misses out on God's grace, that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble and thus contaminates many.*

*Hebrews 12:15 CJB*

*Then He said to the disciples, “It is impossible that no offenses should come, but woe to him through whom they do come!*

*Luke 17:1 NKJV*

*In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, <sup>27</sup> and do not give the devil a foothold.*

*Ephesians 4:26-27 NIV*

*It is harder to win back the friendship of an offended brother than to capture a fortified city. His anger shuts you out like iron bars.*

*Proverbs 18:19 LB*

*Arguments separate friends like a gate  
locked with bars. Proverbs 18:19 NLT*

*“If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. <sup>4</sup> Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying ‘I repent,’ you must forgive them.”*

*<sup>5</sup> The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” Luke 17:3-5 NIV*



# SIX BIBLICAL STEPS TO HANDLING OFFENSE:

*"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother"*  
(NKJV)

1. Evaluate the offense.

*A person's wisdom yields patience; it is to  
one's glory to overlook an offense.*

*Proverbs 19:11 NIV*

2. Admit you're offended.

You can't deal with a problem you  
don't admit you have.

3. Get the log out.

*“Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. <sup>2</sup> For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged. And why worry about a speck in your friend’s eye when you have a log in your own?”*



*4 How can you think of saying to your friend, 'Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,' when you can't see past the log in your own eye? 5 Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend's eye.*

*Matthew 7:1-5 NLT*

4. Be willing to confront.

*"Go and tell him his fault,"*

*Better is open rebuke than hidden love.  
Proverbs 27:5 NIV*

*Just as iron sharpens iron, a person  
sharpens the character of his friend.  
Proverbs 27:17 CJB*

5. Go in private.

*Go and tell him his fault between  
you and him alone.*

*Whoever would foster love covers over  
an offense, but whoever repeats the matter  
separates close friends. Prov 17:9*



6. Aim for reconciliation.

*"You have gained your brother."*