



"The Root of Offence"

Wed Jan 14, 2026

I. **Mark 4:14-20**

A. What does it mean to be offended?

1. The world's way of thinking: to feel hurt, angry, or upset at something that was said or done.
2. The Word way of thinking – **Entrap, Trip Up, Stumble; To Entice to Sin**
 - Offence is dangerous....in fact, deadly to your spiritual and physical walk with God (It associates itself with un-forgiveness, which is why Jesus spoke often on how to pray with forgiveness and how to walk in forgiveness toward everyone every single day!).
 - So, what is offence? Satan's deadly distraction!

B. Ask the real question: Why Am I Offended?

1. Most people would say, *"My feelings are hurt!"*, or *"I didn't do anything to deserve this!"* (And these may be true statements....to a degree....but it's not the root of the issue.)
2. Before we announce the root, take a look at what was spoken to the first person in the Bible who got offended – Cain. (**Genesis 4:6-7**)
 - Cain was angry at God....but his feelings deceived Cain to look at his brother Abel.
 - What's the lesson here? **Feelings, if not submitted to the Lord, will always be to Satan's advantage.**

C. What is the root?

1. **Mark 4:17 – NO ROOT (Not Grounded in the Living Word).**
2. Another way of saying it: Immature!
 - When you let your feelings control your thoughts....then your actions, that's immaturity at its best. (Sow the Word = Maturity).
 - The first place to control your feelings is with your thoughts (Cast down and bring into captivity....how many thoughts?).

II. How To Overcome

A. Count It All Joy

1. **Luke 6:22-23**

- Is the persecution coming because of the Word or just because you are making bad decisions?
- Why does rejoicing help? Praise confuses and stops the enemy.

2. "Put on the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness..."

B. Choose...

1. **Acts 24:16** "Exercise (train) myself..."

2. Don't look at the problem; look at the answer – **I Samuel 17:28-30**

Volunteer at WVC!

Our church thrives because of the hearts and hands of people like you.

Whether you love greeting guests, serving children, praying with others, or helping behind the scenes, there's a place for your gifts. Volunteering isn't just a role — it's building community, growing spiritually, and making a meaningful impact.

Interested in serving?

We would love to help you get connected! Reach out to our Outreach Team Leaders, Nathanael and Kailee Machen to learn more about serving opportunities in any of these areas:

Worship Team
Media Team
Security Team
Usher Team
Greeter Team
Children's Ministry Team

Thank you for considering being part of what God is doing at WVC!

"As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." — 1 Peter 4:10 (NKJV)