

OVERCOMING OFFENSES
Ghosts of Christmas Past – Part 1
December 3, 2017

Your life is too short and
your calling too great to live offended.

James 4:14 (NIV) *“Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.”*

Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV) *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

Matthew 5:13-14 (NIV) *“You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. ¹⁴You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.”*

Proverbs 19:11 (NIV) *“A person’s wisdom yields patience; it is to one’s glory to overlook an offense.”*

It's not pretending it never happened.

It's deciding to overlook the fact that it already did.

The word “overlook” literally means to...
“pass over.”

Rene Descartes

“Whenever anyone has offended me I try to raise my soul so high that the offense cannot reach it.”

With God's Help...

- I'm getting over being easily offended.

Ephesians 4:2 (NLT) *“Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other’s faults because of your love.”*

We tend to judge others by their actions
and ourselves by our intentions.

- I'm getting over the big offenses.

We can rehearse it.

We can release it.

Colossians 3:13 (NLT) *“Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.”*

Matthew 6:14-15 (NIV) *“For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”*

Matthew 10:7-8 (NIV) *“As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ ⁸Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.”*

Ephesians 1:7-8a (NIV) *“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace. ⁸that He lavished on us.”*

Hebrews 12:15 (NIV) *“See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.”*

Genesis 50:19-20 (NIV) *“But Joseph said to them, ‘Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.’”*