All offended people fall into two categories: those who have been genuinely mistreated, and those who think they have been mistreated but actually were not. The story of Joseph focuses on those who have been genuinely mistreated. When you have been genuinely mistreated, do you have the right to be offended? This is not a rhetorical question. Based on scripture, do we have a right to be offended? The author in chapter 2 states, “…an offended Christian is one who takes in life but, because of fear, cannot release life.” The story of Joseph is both remarkable and heartbreaking. What was meant for his demise God used for his benefit.

1. Genesis 50:19
   1. Joseph had offended his brothers, so they betrayed him. (Matthew 24:10 AMP states***, “At that time many will be offended and repelled [by their association with Me] and will fall away [from the One whom they should trust] and will betray one another [handing over believers to their persecutors] and will hate one another.”***
   2. They were Jealous of him because his father set him apart physically as well as with a colorful coat and because he was a dreamer.
   3. Joseph did nothing to deserve what was done to him by his brothers.
   4. Joseph did nothing to deserve what was done to him by Potiphar.

Question 1: Have you ever assigned blame for a past situation that happened to you?

1. Is God In Control?
   1. Genesis 45:7
   2. Joseph learned obedience by what he suffered.
   3. Authority is given to serve, not to set you apart.
   4. God is control of our destiny’s, not man!
2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 TPT states, “***We all experience times of testing, which is normal for every human being. But God will be faithful to you. He will screen and filter the severity, nature, and timing of every test or trial you face so that you can bear it. And each test is an opportunity to trust him more, for along with every trial God has provided for you a way of escape that will bring you out of it victoriously***.”
   1. God has already mapped our directions out!
   2. Stay submitted to God by not becoming offended
   3. Stay the course!
3. Declarations
   1. Father God, You are in control of my life, and like Joseph, I choose to learn obedience through my trials.
   2. I will use this period of spiritual training in my life to focus on the greatness of my God instead of the impossibility of my circumstances.
4. Chapter 3 Takeaways
   1. It’s not about right or wrong, but it’s about the will of God in our lives.
   2. The response to the offense will determine your future!
   3. We need to model what He expects, and what He expects is for us to operate with unconditional love.
   4. Sowing love while being rejected is difficult, ask Jesus!
   5. Building internal walls is not the answer to dealing with offense….it’s what the enemy wants.