Topeka Bible Church

Mythbusters #5:

Good Christians Don't Offend People

Community Group Study Questions

***Proverbs 29:25* and selected passages**

1. Have you ever significantly offended another person? What happened? Was it something you said or something you did? Was the conflict of issue ever resolved (*Romans 12:18; 14:29*)?

2. Why is the truth of the gospel so offensive to other people (cf. *Matthew 10:14; Acts 3:13-15; 1 Corinthians 2:13-14*)? Can we ever avoid offending others with the gospel (*1 Corinthians 1:18*)? If so, how (*1 Peter 3:15; 2 Timothy 2:24-26*)?

3. What did Jesus promise would happen to His followers (*John 15:18-19; 2 Timothy 3:12*)? Have you experienced persecution? If so, was your persecution the direct result of your sharing the "offensive" words of the gospel with someone?

4. What about people pleasing? Is this a struggle of yours? What does the Bible say about this struggle (cf. *Galatians 1:10*)? Why is this struggle often such a dangerous one (cf. *1 Samuel 15:24*)?

5. What is the best antidote for our people-pleasing struggles (*Proverbs 29:25*)? How does a deeper trust in God neutralize our people-pleasing tendencies (*1 Thessalonians 2:4; Psalm 125:1-2*)?

6. Jesus certainly offended people with His words (cf. *Matthew 23:27; Luke 11:39*), and He never struggled with people-pleasing (cf. *John 5:30; 6:38*). How can we model His boldness and avoid people-pleasing while also limiting the number of people we offend?

Memory Verse:

"The fear of man brings a snare, but he who trusts in the LORD will be exalted."
(Proverbs 29:25, NASB)