



Dealing with Impossible People

**Matt. 11:28 - “Come to Me, all you
who labor and are heavy laden, and
I will give you rest”**

Dealing with Impossible People

- Job 14:1 - “Man who is born of woman Is of few days and full of trouble.”
- Job 5:7 - “Yet man is born to trouble, As the sparks fly upward.”
- John 16:33 - “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”
- “A Christian without affliction is like a soldier only on parade” (Felix Neff)

Dealing with Impossible People

- It is harder to deal with burdens when they are generated by people
 - By fellow human beings who ought to know what it is like to share the human condition
 - By fellow Christians who ought to know better because you share the same faith
 - By family members who ought to love you
 - When the physical world randomly gives us pain, we find it easier to accept than when a fellow human being thoughtlessly or purposefully hurts us

Dealing with Impossible People

- Three kinds of people who inflict pain on others
 - Thoughtless users who will not wake up enough to care about the burden they are to others. “I just didn’t think...”
 - Self-righteous know-it-alls who are convinced the pain they inflict on others is in their best interest. “I know what’s best for...”
 - Deliberate evil doers who do not care or even delight in causing pain for others. “It’s my life...”

Dealing with Impossible People

- Which one is the worst?
 - ALL OF THEM!!!
 - No, I don't care if you think the thoughtless one is the least objectionable. Thoughtlessness is evil; they don't have a right to their insensitivity or to express their inconsiderate opinions
 - I'm not preaching to those who are impossible people. In most cases, they are reprobate and headed to perdition anyway.
 - I am preaching to those that are hurt by them.

Dealing with Impossible People

- For those who are afflicted by impossible people -- you are not alone
 - Psalm 55

How Did Jesus Deal With Impossible People?

- Rejection and mistreatment from family
 - John 2:3-5 - Manipulation from His mother brought direct address
 - Mark 3:21 - His family said he was out of His mind; He ignored it
 - Mark 3:30-31 - Tried to monopolize His time; He said His audience was His family now
 - John 7:3-5 - His brothers tried to send Him away and did not believe Him; He did not allow it to interfere with His work

How Did Jesus Deal With Impossible People?

- Rejection and mistreatment from the people He was trying to save
- How did Jesus handle missionaries of misery?
 - He never let them set the agenda for His work or teaching.
 - He ignored them or moved on.
 - He used their negativity as an opportunity for instruction.
 - Sometimes the situation was hopeless, and Jesus just let them go and die in their negativity, bitterness, and sins.
- Sometimes for the health of our own souls, we have to let a relationship die. Some people are just too toxic to our own spiritual health to be around them

How Did Jesus Deal With Impossible People?

- Betrayal and abandonment from His friends
 - Peter denied the Lord - Luke 22:55-61
 - The other disciples with the exception of John forsook Him - Matt. 26:56
 - Judas betrayed Him - John 18:5
- After Peter repented, Jesus restored and forgave him - John 21:15-19
 - It's easier and more tempting to keep score of the ones who have let us down. It is critical that we fight that line of thought

How Did Jesus Deal With Impossible People?

- Horrible treatment from humankind
 - Matt. 5:43-48 - “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ 44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? 48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.”

How Did Jesus Deal With Impossible People?

- But that doesn't mean that the evil ones get away with it. Imagine what they will feel in His Presence on Judgment Day
 - Acts 17:30-31 - "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, 31 because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."