Unity… The Heartbeat of Jesus

Fending Off the Spirit Offense

James 3:1-12

**I. The Predominant Triggers of Offense**

 1. Unreasonable \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 Scriptures: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 2. Placing absolute \_\_\_\_\_ in humanity.

 Scriptures: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 3. Taking sermons \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 4. Blaming the church for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ problems.

 Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 5. Taking up and embracing the offenses of \_\_\_\_\_\_.

 Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 6. Seeking to promote \_\_\_\_ or your own \_\_\_\_\_\_.

 Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 7. Misplaced \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 Scriptures: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**II. Two Important Realities of the Spirit of Offense**

 1. Offense only has power to burn when fueled by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 2. Offense morphs from a natural to a spiritual issue through three major avenues:

 1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Familiarity with God’s presence.

 2) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Perceived injury.

 3) \_\_\_\_\_: Who created who?

 Scriptures: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**III. The Conclusion of the Matter**

 1. To \_\_\_\_\_\_ offended is a choice.

 2. We all offend in \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ from time to time.

 3. Offense cannot thrive where the spirit of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is predominant.