

Resist the Temptation to Be Irritated or Annoyed

I recently outlined how regrets and disappointments cause us to think negatively, and that results in us losing our peace and bringing chaos into our life.¹ Did you know that irritation and annoyance will do the same? That's what Father had to say to us about it:

“Resist the temptation to be irritated or annoyed; it will only undermine your faith and tear you down. Maintain a heart of forgiveness especially toward yourself where you believe you have fallen short of your potential. And, extend grace and forgiveness to others who have offended you.”²

So, not only do we need to learn to not take offense,³ as Father told us,⁴ we also have to stop being irritated and annoyed. Those are a couple of the very things that bring us to the point of taking offense.

But there's more:

“Your hard work will pay off if you refuse to get discouraged. Do not give up. It is time to press through the obstacles that you face. I am with you to help you achieve My goals and purposes in your life. Only believe! I am with those whose hearts are set on fulfilling My will, says the Lord.”⁵

That's why it's important to set ourselves a code of ethics to live by.⁶ These aren't rules, like the Ten Commandments, but rather behaviours, attitudes and thought patterns that we need to put into place to protect ourselves, so we live righteously.

Father has given us some items for a code already, so I can put them together as a code of conduct to live by:

1. No fear
2. No giving up
3. No regrets
4. No disappointments
5. No irritability
6. No annoyance
7. Take no offense

This 7-point code is actually a component of a larger code of ethics that I have for my life. They're mostly 'Nos', because they are things I need to stop myself from doing. The restrictions I place on myself are not out of fear, but out of a desire to be victorious and not have anything that 'cheats' me out of my Kingdom destiny. Therefore, I assess my thoughts, actions and speech, and I say "No" to any of those which I detect are about to manifest in me.

Of course, there are a lot of 'Yes' items in my code of ethics:

- Be more loving
- Give away more love
- Show more compassion
- Be relational
- Care about 'the one'
- Share Father's heart with everyone who needs it
- etc.

1 – “Stay in the Here and Now” canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/Stay-in-the-Here-and-Now.pdf

2 – Marsha Burns “Small Straws in the Soft Wind” (Feb. 15, 2023) ft111.com/smallstraws.htm [ARCHIVE: www.ft111.com/straws2023.htm]

3 – “Learn To Be Unoffendable” canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/Learn-To-Be-Unoffendable.pdf

4 – MESSAGE: “Become Unoffendable” (18-1-2023)

canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/MESSAGE-Become-Unoffendable-18-1-2023.pdf

5 – Marsha Burns “Small Straws in the Soft Wind” (Feb. 19, 2023) ft111.com/smallstraws.htm [ARCHIVE: www.ft111.com/straws2023.htm]

6 – “Set Yourself a Code of Ethics” canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/Set-Yourself-a-Code-of-Ethics.pdf

I hope you ‘get the picture’ about keeping a check on yourself, seeing I’ve been talking and writing about it for the past 5 years or so. Self-checking is about working on your character (with Father working on the inside) so you change and exhibit more of his character. It’s not to put a burden on yourself or to cause you to feel ‘bad’ about yourself,⁷ It’s part of your process of maturing as a son.

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(Readers will need to look up for themselves any scriptures alluded to in this document)

7 – “Self-Checking, Not Self-Demoralization”

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