



- Offences in life are bound to come. People will hurt you. The question is, “How will you respond?”
- We see three possible responses represented by these three men – Shimei, Abishai, and David. You decide which response you think is most like Christ.

First, you can become _____ and _____ - like Shimei.

- Do you hang on to offenses and allow the _____ of bitterness to eat you up? Is this the kind of person you want to be – a Shimei?
- If **you** really desire to change, Christ can _____ you to change. You can rid yourself of that bitter and critical spirit through Christ.
- *"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."* **2 Corinthians 5:17**
- *"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."* **Philippians 4:13**

Second, you can become full of bold _____ - like Abishai.

- When other people offend you and do you wrong, the human, fleshly response is to retaliate in some way.
- I think we all have some Abishai in us. But what does God's Word teach us? Romans 12:17-19, 21
- The thirst for revenge will _____ you.

Third, you can allow the beauty of _____ and forgiveness to fill you - like David.

- What is the key to being filled with the beauty of mercy and forgiveness towards others who may have done you wrong? We must remember our _____ sin against God, and His forgiveness of our sins.
- *"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."* **Ephesians 4:32**