
By
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THE PAGE

May
And
June
2025

Getting GBC ladies on the same page.

Do you have ought?

Mark 11:25, "And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."

The word "ought" means something. No, it actually means "something." The verse is saying that if we are asking God to forgive our sins and we are holding onto "something" in our hearts against another person, He will not listen. The ought in our heart puts noise cancelling headphones on God and He will not hear us. We must deal with the "ought" in our heart.

We have ought and we ought not.

I'm purposely not using the word "bitterness" because we often think of bitterness as something very deep, maybe from our past. What I want us to deal with today is getting bent out of shape, offended, and hurt by petty stuff – something that just gets your goat. Ought. Is there someone that you would describe like, "Oh I love everyone, but I really don't like her"?

What will destroy a home and church faster than any scary laws passed in our country are

Christian ladies that can't get along.

They have ought against each other.

Ought doesn't just affect you. It affects your prayer life and it affects your church and home.

James 3:14, "But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth."

We are not to hold our ought out for all to see, and tell everyone our reasons for having the ought, and how we are justified to have this ought. If people know you have ought, it has already gone too far. It's no longer just in your heart; you're glorying in it. Do people glory in their ought online? Yes. All the time! People use social media platforms to bear their grievances against other people.

James 3:9-10, "Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be."
We cannot be right with God and wrong with people.

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MUSIC RECOMMENDATION:



"God can make a way" by
Commonwealth Baptist College

BOOK RECOMENDATION:



"Life is Sweet" by Vickie Mutchler
This devotional is available at
grandviewcares.com

FURTHER BIBLE STUDY:

Matt. 18:21 Look at how we are to forgive others.

1 John 1:9 Look at how God forgives us.

FOR GIGGLES:



If you have ought in your heart, there should be one thing on your mind... get rid of it!

When dealing with ought use this principle: **Deal with private ought privately and public ought publicly.**

If you've secretly been jealous of my long legs, don't hurt my feelings and tell me. Get it right between you and God. Let God heal that hurt.

If you have ought against a woman and she has no idea. Don't discourage her by telling her! Get busy actively praying for her and loving her.

If you've told someone to their face or through a cowardly text message that you've hated them for 10 years, then yes, you need to get right with them to their face. We can't just say and do as we please and only confess it to God. We must make it right with the person as well.

Two questions to consider:

1. Do you have ought?

Here's a good test: Would you be okay serving in a ministry with any lady from your church? How about sharing a hotel room at a ladies' event?

Some would refuse serving God in a ministry because they can't get along with another lady. That hurts the church.

I will admit that I struggle with ought sometimes. Once, instead of making things right with a lady in our church, I declared, "I have other friends and don't need her!" What a stubborn old goat I can be sometimes!

We have a choice when we are hurt, offended, and annoyed by a person. We can hold on to ought or pass over a transgression. I don't mean condoning or covering up sin, but deciding to let go of the anger in our hearts.

When I look back on the times I've chosen to hold on to ought, I realize, in those moments, I had very low self-esteem. How people treated me and what they thought of me mattered too much. The closer I am to the Lord the less offended I get. Because I know how special and loved I am by my Savior, how much that lady likes or doesn't like me just doesn't matter as much.

At times we may feel justified in our ought, but it's not going to help us by holding on to it.

2. Are you causing ought in others?

I've been hurt by people who to this day don't know they hurt me. It stands to reason that I may have also hurt people and didn't realize it. We not only can have ought in *our* hearts but also cause it in *others*. Giving unasked for opinions or advice, excluding people, or flat-out meanness can cause others to hold onto ought. Way back in childhood, I lied about my friend. I was trying to entertain and make people laugh. Well, my lie got my friend in big trouble. She denied doing the thing I said she did, and sadly, everyone believed me instead of her. I never fessed up, until at least 20 years later. Is that awful or what?! God had convicted me about my sin many times. Each time, I told myself whatever I needed to assuage my conscience: she probably doesn't even remember, I was just a kid, what will it help to relive the past...and more. Finally, I told God if He gave me the opportunity then I would apologize. Well, would you believe that opportunity soon came, and I, in tears, apologized to my childhood friend. She graciously forgave me and told me that so many people had hurt her in life, and I was the first to apologize. Though I didn't think an apology would matter much, it

did. It released some ought she had been holding onto because of the hurt I had caused.

Is there an apology you need to make? Does someone have ought against you and for good cause? Seek some counsel in how to go about this, but get it right. It's never too late to say you're sorry. There will be people in our lives that hurt us and never offer an apology, but we can be the person to apologize when we hurt others. We can still let go of the ought in our hearts.

The song says:

"Nothing between my soul and the Savior,
So that His blessed face may be seen;
Nothing preventing the least of His favor,
Keep the way clear! Let nothing between."

Nothing, not even something like ought!

While hanging on the cross paying for the sins of the world, Jesus said, "Father, forgive them." He is ready to forgive us too.

UPCOMING LADIES EVENTS:
(Contact Faith Reynolds with any questions)

Mother/Daughter/Friend Dinner at Stonefire Grill: May 10th

Meet us there and enjoy a great meal and fellowship.

Ladies Extravaganza: June 7th

Invite a friend and come and take a break with us!

Fall Flannel Fling: September 13th

Soul Sisters: Once a month Bible study 11am-12pm

May 10th and June 14th