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The Grace to Live Life In-Bounds!

Session One

Preparing to Rebound!

God Established Boundaries

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God....

God is not Bound when it comes to His ability.

- Omniscience
- Omnipresent
- Omnipotent

When God recognizes a boundary, it is because it is one He has placed there for a purpose.

God Established Boundaries

Heaven -- Not every one has access to Heaven, there are boundaries.

Eden -- There were boundaries for Adam and Eve. God said it's all yours except -- the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The Law -- is all about boundaries

The Land -- God gave Abraham boundaries on the Land He gave him.

The Tabernacle -- There were boundaries. Outer court, inner court, holy place, holy of holies, and limits on who and when)

In Christ -- The place that New Testament believers dwell

The Incarnation

Boundless God chose to come and live within human bounds in order to give us what we need to....Live within the boundaries God originally intended for humanity to honor.

What is a boundary?

- A boundary is a line that has been established visibly or invisibly to help us recognize what is ours and what is not.
- A boundary is established to indicate limitation.
- A boundary is established to provide true liberty.

Types of boundaries...

- Natural Boundaries (outer space, oceans, etc.)
- Dimensional Boundaries (time)
- Spiritual Boundaries (Legion, blood of Jesus, etc)
- Biological Boundaries (race, age, sex, DNA, etc.)
- Social Boundaries (relational, custom, etc.)
- Civil Boundaries (government, law, etc.)
- Moral Boundaries (adultery, murder, theft, etc)

Authority and Boundaries

- A boundary indicates an authority
- It can be legitimate or illegitimate authority
- Our "Dominion Nature" (We were made to exercise dominion)
- Our "Dominion Mandate" (We are called to establish the King's domain)
- Our "Dominion Perversion" (We illegitimately use our authority and dominion)

The ultimate question – Who's gonna be in charge?
We struggle with controlling one another.

Public and Private Access

Open Sign on a store means you can access

Closed Sign on a store means you cannot access (If you do, you become a violater. The same with our relationships.

Other examples of access in our daily lives

Public Access -- Like a public park, all can enter

Private Access -- a person's backyard, only the invited are to enter

No Trespassing -- means you are not allowed to enter without permission

Owners and Tenants -- each have certain rights of access at certain times

Why this teaching?

-The "yes" and "no" factory... (human beings are yes and no factories. Are daily lives are a continual string of yes and no.) We make choices and our choices make us.

-Every war is over a boundary of some sort.

-Living in bounds brings blessing in the long run.

-Violating boundaries causes havoc and chaos for us and others.

Why are there boundaries?

-For us to experience freedom.

-For us to live honorable lives.

-For us to live mutually enjoyable lives.

-For us to be able to function together in a way that benefits all of us.

-For us to experience the what God intended

-To keep us from killing each other off!

A Passage to Remember

Acts 17:24 God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. 25 Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things.

Acts 17:24-29 (continued)

Acts 17:26 And He has made from one blood[a] every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, 27 so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;

Acts 17:24-29 (continued)

Acts 17:28 for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.' 29 Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising.

Five Words to Remember (related to living within God's prescribed boundaries)

Providence -- God has chosen the boundaries of our lives. When and where and to whom we would be born.

Purpose -- God has a purpose in all these things.

Power -- God has the power to work all things together for good to those who love him and are called to His purpose.

Perseverance -- Our role is to keep living and trusting. God will not ultimately fail the trusting heart.

Prayer -- This is our way of partnering with the plans and purposes of God in our lives.

Think of it this way...Prayer is basically our asking God to do border patrol. Ministry is often our using God given

authority to enforce or remove a border.

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