

# Boundaries In Marriage

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## Basic Boundaries

Finding Freedom with Boundaries

### Psalm 139:5 The Boundary Psalm

<sup>5</sup> You hem me in—behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

> The entire Psalm 139 is about boundaries energized in our life through an intimate relationship with God.

Vs 5 God has a specific plan for you and your marriage.

God's touch always reflects His relationship to you.

God's knowledge of me and my spouse is bigger and BETTER than I know or understand. Therefore I am in awe of the safety of His "boundary" love.

### Key to God's Marriage Boundaries:

*Our marriage boundaries are established as both husband and wife are secure in Christ*

His intimate relationship with us.> Salvation

His Word of Truth> Bible

His Holy Spirit released into our lives to direct us> Prayer

His Covenant releases> His grace for us to grow.

### Gen 3:1ff The First Boundaries

<sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> **but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'**"

<sup>4</sup> "You will not surely die," .....<sup>6</sup> When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.... <sup>9</sup> But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup> He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." <sup>11</sup> And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" <sup>12</sup> The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

<sup>13</sup> Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

## 2 Key Marriage Boundaries

### Freedom to embrace ownership.

- >God gave boundaries for Adam and Eve specifically
- >Choices and “pressures” often causes us to blame others and our spouse

Result:

- >God given protection is removed
- >Frustration and anger result.
  - <sup>28</sup> Like a city whose walls are broken down is a man who lacks self-control. Prov 25:28
- >Without God’s boundary freedom>abuse and control takes place

### Freedom to embrace responsibility.

#### >**Who owns what?**

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. Gal 5:1

- >Biblical ownership releases freedom
- > “Old ways” are ever present. You must know **God’s New Life** through the blood of Jesus..... you own it!

#### > **You are responsible** for your boundaries and for your boundary role in the marriage.

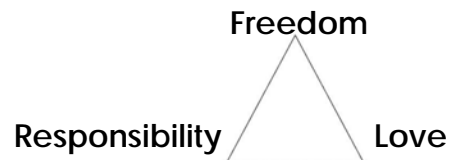
<sup>13</sup> You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature ; rather, serve one another in love. <sup>14</sup> The entire law is summed up in a single command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>15</sup> If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. Gal 5:13ff

- > We are responsible to embrace for all that the Lord has entrusted to us and has provided as a “transformational” boundary for us.

Feelings, attitudes, behavior, choices, limits, desires, thoughts, values, talents, love are our responsibility > No longer reacting> instead, “New Creation” thinking with

Biblical principles  
Holy Spirit empowered understanding  
Covenant security

## Marriage Boundary Triangle



God has created us to: Live *free*/ Take *responsibility* for our own freedom/ *Love God* and each other

The cycle starts with Freedom > which releases Responsibility and healthy self control and results in Love as spouses become more secure in the boundaries that God has provided for them and their marriage. The cycle continues as:

Love grows> releasing freedom > leading to more responsibility....and to more love....

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