

# Boundaries In Marriage

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## Boundary Values in Your Marriage Faithfulness

A faithful spouse is one who can be trusted, depended upon, and believed in and one in whom you can rest.

### 1 Cor 4:1-3 What is entrusted to Us.

So then, men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God. 2 Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. NIV

- Why is faithfulness/trust such an important part of a healthy boundary for your marriage?
  - Trust is expressed as we are servants of Christ. We bring our “new Life” in Christ into every area of our marriage. We serve by pleasing god in the way we live out our marriages.
  - He is the one we please first. Our spouse second, and all others beyond that. If we please Him with “Marriage” things He has entrusted us with, then our spouse will live in a faithful/trusting environment.
  - Key here are learning and knowing “the secret things of God” as we live out our marriages. It takes choice and effort.
  - When we live a life that is faithful to the things of God, that character translates into our marriage...even a bad marriage. We do not have to be perfect. We just have to have a desire to be obedient.
  
- Trust = Faithfulness= Maturity= Vision and Purpose for your marriage.
  - Hebrew meaning of Trust> So confident that you can be “careless”. No worry. So taken care of that you don’t have to take care of yourself.
  - Confidence/Assuredness/Conviction/Fidelity/Truth/Certainty/ Permanence/Rest.
    - CONFIDENCE> Allows you to build even if you disagree on a particular point, you are confident that your spouse and you are on the same page> an enriched marriage for both of you.
    - ASSUREDNESS> Of each other’s character, faith, dependability.
    - CONVICTION> Of your core values. Trust/faith/etc

- FIDELITY> Secure in your faithfulness to the relationship. This is not about adultery only. Any area that undermines the intimacy level of the relationship is a breach in fidelity.
- TRUTH> dealing with each other in your words, your character, your values.
- CERTAINTY> Like conviction, you can be certain of each other's strengths and weaknesses.
- PERMANENCE> No moving even in the tough times.
- REST> Much of the tension of a marriage comes from the restlessness found in trying to trust the relationship fully.

### Matt 25:21 There Are "Faithfulness Rewards"

21 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' NIV

- Your reward comes from your obedience to God first. "Well done..."
  - Your Marriage Covenant vows.
  - Applying biblical principles to your marriage.
  - Determining to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit regarding your spouse and your marriage. Basically> waiting on the Lord's direction versus your direction.
- The servant attitude must be foundational if faithfulness is to be a cornerstone in your boundary wall.

#### Phil 2:5-9

5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, *taking the very nature of a servant*, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross! 9 *Therefore God exalted him to the highest place* NIV

- Chose to make Himself nothing. Being faithful has moments when all your abilities etc are released and your identity is gone for a moment, a season or forever.
  - Taking on: We choose to be faithful as a servant
  - Big Picture: Humility> and the cross...die to self for a greater purpose.
- What does God have for the faithful servant/husband/wife?
    - His pleasure
    - Oneness in your marriage
    - Creation of a generational blessing for your children's children.
    - You will have a Christ like attitude.
    - Your spouse will know your heart and see it expressed throughout your "body". Your very character and nature reflect Christ.
    - Purity in your intimacy on every level including your sexual intimacy.

How do you define faithful/faithfulness in your marriage?

REMEMBER: Men will think task, action. Women will think big picture/ relationally.