

Key Scripture for this Series:

Ephesians 5:15-17

15 Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

Text for Today:

Deuteronomy 34:5-9

5 So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord. 6 And He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth Peor; but no one knows his grave to this day. 7 Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died. His eyes were not dim nor his natural vigor diminished. 8 And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. So the days of weeping and mourning for Moses ended. 9 Now Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him; so the children of Israel heeded him, and did as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Joshua 1:1-4

1 After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, it came to pass that the Lord spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying: 2 "Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them—the children of Israel. 3 Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses. 4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your territory.

Statements:

- *Boundaries are limits we set or don't set in being responsible.*
- *Boundaries usually define what is you and what is not you.*

Starts with:

Proverbs 1:7

Fear of the Lord is the foundation of true knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

Why Boundaries?

1. Stop **drift**.
2. Know your **beliefs**.
3. For your **protection**.

Three Examples of Boundaries:

- Egypt represented a place of **never enough**.

Exodus 1:13-14

13 So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor. 14 And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage—in mortar, in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service in which they made them serve was with rigor.

- The wilderness represented a place of **barely enough**.

Exodus 16:3

“If only the Lord had killed us back in Egypt,” they moaned. “There we sat around pots filled with meat and ate all the bread we wanted. But now you have brought us into this wilderness to starve us all to death.”

- While the Promised Land represented **more than enough** what God desires for your life.

Numbers 14:7-8

And they (spies) spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: “The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land.

Steps to changing boundaries in our life:

1. We have to deal with where we are—a boundary of **bondage** or **freedom**.

Ephesians 2:3

All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God’s anger, just like everyone else.

Romans 5:12

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned.

Galatians 5:1

Stand fast therefore in the liberty (freedom) by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

Ephesians 5:15-17

15 Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

2. We have to stop **believing** the **wrong** report.

Numbers 13:25-33 (summary)

The 12 spies returned after 40 days. Brought report back—along with some fruit of the land. The report: the people there are strong—cities fortified—descendants of Anak there. But Caleb said, Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it. But 10 spies said, We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we. And those 10 gave the children of Israel a bad report.

It causes us to **blame** the **wrong** thing for becoming discouraged.

Matthew 7:3-5

3 And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? 5 Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Statement:

Don't set a boundary (like the wilderness) that don't include God's promises!

3. Take **responsibility** to follow God's **leading**.

Joshua 1:2-4

2 "Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them—the children of Israel. 3 Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses. 4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your territory.

Psalms 24:4-5

4 Only those whose hands and hearts are pure, who do not worship idols and never tell lies. 5 They will receive the Lord's blessing and have a right relationship with God their savior.

Matthew 6:33

Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

Psalms 37:23

The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives.