



## SERMON NOTES:

- Boundaries are necessary so everyone knows their limits and responsibilities. Unity is not an absence of boundaries but a respect of those boundaries (Garden of Eden)
  - Proverbs 22:28 The markers were set by God and not to be moved; only God can expand our boundaries
  - Proverbs 23:10-11
  - <https://images.app.goo.gl/Rn2QKhMx2cBwWviv6>
  - The blessing of the land could become the burden if boundaries were not established
  - Joshua 13:6 God gave the victory, the people were to obey the boundaries
  - Joshua 14:1-2
1. Caleb the Conqueror: We must have the faith to conquer the enemy and claim the promise. Boundaries can only be set when the victory is complete.
    - a. Joshua 14:8-9 Wholly following is more effective than following: whole heart matters
    - b. Joshua 14:14-15 Your following brings change to the community
    - c. Joshua 15:16-17 Your example becomes generational and inspirational
    - d. Joshua 15:19
  2. Shiloh (peaceful), continuing the conquest: God's house is a place to provide wisdom, unity, and peace for the continued fight
    - a. Joshua 18:1 The tabernacle of God calls for His people to meet there to seek His presence, power, and promise.
    - b. The tabernacle stayed at Shiloh for 369 years.
    - c. Joshua 18:9-10 Casting lots was allowing Holy Spirit to direct the path.
    - d. Seven lots were chosen to complete the boundaries for the land. Perfectly portioned.
    - e. God's boundaries are designed for your good and His glory.
  3. Cities of Refuge: When blood is spilled, the refuge allowed for truth and grace.
    - a. Joshua 20:3-4
    - b. Six cities: Kedesh (set apart/holy), Shechem (shoulder), Hebron (unite/join), Bezer (gold), Ramoth (high places), Golan (surrounded)
    - c. Joshua 20:6 He was safe until the high priest died
    - d. Jesus, our high priest, is eternal; therefore, our safety is eternally secure
- Hebrews 4:14,16
  - Biblical boundaries: Marriage, parenting, church, confrontation on sin, treatment of others. Set biblical boundaries in your life and watch Him bring peace to your life.



## GROUP DISCUSSION:

1. Biblical boundaries are necessary for God's creation to exist in unity. Read Genesis 1. When God created the universe, there were boundaries. When God cursed man, there were boundaries. When God organized the Church, there are boundaries. There are boundaries in marriage, in parenting, in friendships, in everything we do; yet, we don't respect many boundaries, thus causing problems in our life and in the lives of others. What are some verses that outline Biblical boundaries? Here's a few to get you started: Ephesians 6; I Corinthians 13; Matthew 18; Romans 12; I Timothy 3. What boundaries do you need to establish? What boundaries do you need to respect?
2. Read Ephesians 4 and compare it to Joshua 13, 21. How does God want His people to be unified? What promises does He give for us to follow? The total promised land is roughly 150 miles long by 75 miles wide, total of 11,250 square miles (roughly Vermont and Delaware combined). When you read Joshua chapters 15-19, the specifics of the cities and the boundaries show the preciseness of our God and the plan He has for our life. Every detail is accounted for in your life and His Kingdom!
3. Read Joshua 14; Numbers 13-14. The story of Caleb is fascinating. He is a young man when Moses sends him with the other eleven men to spy out the land. Ten of the men return saying that the enemy is too great and failure is sure; except for Caleb and Joshua. They return saying God can give the victory. Fast forward forty years, Caleb is now 85, and his story and passion are still the same: Let's Go follow God! He doesn't ask for the easy land, he asks for the hardest portion with the largest enemies...and he is victorious. We need more Calebs! Read Romans 8:31-39 and I John 4:4. How confident are you in your God? What giants is God calling you to slay so you can walk closer to Him? David had no trouble conquering David, but he couldn't defeat Bathsheba!
4. Read Joshua 15:1-19. The names of the people and places in Joshua's conquest tell a story. Kiriath-sepher (city of books) is defeated by Othniel (strength of God) who is married to Achsah (anklet). The city that was the capitol for worldly wisdom was conquered by the strength of God through His word/message (anklet). Read Isaiah 52:7; Ephesians 6:15. Remember: The LORD had already spoken the defeat of the enemies, the people just had to believe and go. Jesus has already given us victory over sin, grave, and death (I Corinthians 15), we have to believe that by faith and live it. What story will your name tell?
5. Read Joshua 20. What was the purpose of the cities of refuge? Who was allowed to enter and who was not? How long were they allowed to stay? How does that relate to the fact that Jesus (our High Priest) is eternal? What promises/power does that provide for us today?