

Biblical Boundaries

Pastor Jennifer Alessio | August 30, 2026

Thread: Biblical boundaries provide us with the framework to thrive.

“As Jesus was starting out on his way to Jerusalem, a man came running up to him, knelt down, and asked, ‘Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?’ ‘Why do you call me good?’ Jesus asked. ‘Only God is truly good. But to answer your question, you know the commandments: You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. You must not cheat anyone. Honor your father and mother.’ ‘Teacher,’ the man replied, ‘I’ve obeyed all these commandments since I was young.’ Looking at the man, Jesus felt genuine love for him. ‘There is still one thing you haven’t done,’ he told him. ‘Go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.’ At this the man’s face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions. Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, ‘How hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God!’ This amazed them. But Jesus said again, ‘Dear children, it is very hard to enter the Kingdom of God. In fact, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God!’ The disciples were astounded. ‘Then who in the world can be saved?’ they asked. Jesus looked at them intently and said, ‘Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But not with God. Everything is possible with God.’”

Mark 10:17-27 NLT

1. Biblical boundaries provide us with the framework to thrive.

- Is there something in your life that is preventing you from growing in your relationship with Christ?
- Christ will show us what is holding us back. But it is up to us to surrender and apply the boundary.

2. Biblical boundaries guard our hearts.

- *“Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life,” Proverbs 4:23 NLT*
- Guarding your heart is simply the process of applying biblical values to what you see, hear, do, and speak.
- Biblical values invite us to:

Make the most of our time. *“So be careful how you live. Don’t live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days.” Ephesians 5:15-16 NLT*

Protect our eyes. *“Your eye is like a lamp that provides light for your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is filled with light. But when your eye is unhealthy, your whole body is filled with darkness. And if the light you think you have is actually darkness, how deep that darkness is!” Matthew 6:22-23 NLT*

Choose self-control. *“A gentle answer deflects anger, but harsh words make tempers flare.” Proverbs 15:1 NLT*

Trust God with decision making. *“Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.” Proverbs 3:5-6 NLT*

Work hard. *“Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.” Colossians 3:23 NLT*

Steward our resources well. *“The wise have wealth and luxury, but fools spend whatever they get.” Proverbs 21:20 NLT*

A boundary is a guardrail. It almost always includes accountability. It is a conscious choice to stay within the area of freedom and responsibility that God has given to us.

3. Biblical boundaries establish healthy relationships.

- Healthy relationships respect the other person’s right to choose.
- Healthy relationships keep the conversation open.
- Healthy relationships do not cancel others.
- Healthy relationships speak the truth in love.
- Healthy relationships take appropriate responsibility.

Challenge:

- Is there something in your life that Christ is inviting you to surrender to Him?
- Where do you error in your application of biblical boundaries? Do you attempt to control others or be too permissive?
- What biblical boundary do you need to set in your life?

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