



**9/22/19**

**WINNING WHERE IT MATTERS**

## **BIG IDEA**

Boundaries are God's idea. They were created for stewardship - to care for what God values. They protect what is valuable, they multiply what matters, and they communicate value. They help us focus in life so we can accomplish what we were created to do and be. We get to define our own "end zone," our values, our relationships, our purpose and say our best yes. Once our boundaries are established, God gets to interrupt them when necessary to advance His purposes through us.

## **SCRIPTURES USED IN THE MESSAGE**

- Genesis 1:1-10
- Genesis 2:15-17
- Proverbs 4:23
- Exodus 19:10-12
- Proverbs 30:15a
- Matthew 12:48-50
- Matthew 14:13-14

## **TALK IT OVER**

Choose questions that keep the discussion moving. No need to discuss every question.

- Where does your competitiveness come out? In sports, board games, or perhaps as a fan?
- Do you feel like you're in the game of life or on the sidelines?
  - Do you feel like you're in the right game or not? Why?
- Why are boundaries important for winning at what matters in life?
- What boundaries do you have in your weekly activities? Are they healthy or unhealthy based on the message?
  - What have you said yes to that you need to change to a no?
- Who is influencing your heart and do you want to let them continue?
  - What is the tone of your self talk? Are you loving yourself so you can love others or are you beating yourself up day after day?

## **APPLICATION IDEAS**

Suggested next steps to take as a group or individuals with group support.

- Do the exercise Pastor Jeremy suggested:  
Take yourself to the end of your life and ask what you want people to say about you. Picture yourself in front of Jesus and ask what will matter at that point. List the things that matter in those contexts. Now choose your boundaries based on what will matter then.
- Who is your inner circle - the people who are for you and speak truth to you?

## **PRAYER FOCUS**

At Crossroads, we pray believing God hears and answers us. Make time in every group meeting to pray for one another and the larger matters of concern to your group.

- Encourage members to be grateful. Perhaps spend this week's prayer time praying one statement at a time around the circle several times thanking God for all the different things you can think of.

## LEADER TIPS

- This is a good time to notice who seems to have gifts and talent to lead their own group one day. Ask them to consider it, offering to let them practice in your group.
- When they give their "yes," invite them start by doing part of the group session. Perhaps they could lead prayer time or lead part or all of the discussion, whatever suits their experience level.
  - Set aside time at the end of that group session to speak life and give compliments about what went well. Be gentle and full of hope when you give suggestions for next time.
  - Gradually give them more and more leadership of your group so they can gain confidence while you're their safety net.
  - Resist the urge to rescue them when they stumble. Let them learn it's okay to make mistakes and how to move forward from them.