Lifegroup Study (AM) – 10th June 2018

**Living Wisdom - Boundaries**

**INTRODUCTION**

This series is about loving people well. Jesus said: “*Love your neighbour as yourself*.”

(Mark 12:31) but dealing with people can be tricky. Healthy relationships require healthy boundaries.

God established boundaries right at the beginning, at creation. In Genesis 2, after God has created the heavens and the earth, the animals to fill the land He then creates Adam, then sets some boundaries. So, the boundaries God had set were to KEEP THE GOOD IN AND KEEP THE BAD OUT

**KEY SCRIPTURES**

**READ Genesis 2:15-16** The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.  And the Lord God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.”

**KEY POINTS**

* A boundary line defines ownership, who controls what, who is responsible
* Don’t do things for people that they should be doing for themselves
* Be flexible enough to obey God in the moment (Jesus at times had places that he wanted to be, things he wanted to be doing and yet he stopped for the one, eg: Mark 6:30-34&37, Matthew 14:13)

**KEY QUOTES**

“Sometimes our constant assistance of a friend who is not taking ownership of their issues is not helpful to us or them. It does not build into them and assist them to take ownership of their responsibilities. In contributes to them becoming dependent on other people – which contributes to them being an emotional child rather than encouraging their emotional maturity. This means they don’t become who God has created them to be and we inhibit our ability to focus on the things he has called us to do (we need to be pointing them to Christ)” - John Townsend & Henry Cloud quote

“Limits are God’s grace in disguise.” (Author Peter Scazzero)

“By having firm boundaries, with flexibility, we love God well, we love people well, and we love ourselves well.” – Dr Adam Dodds

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. If you heard the sermon, was there anything God spoke to you about personally from this message?
2. Within these passages, what insights into God’s character do you see?
3. What does this passage teach us about God’s purposes for His people?
4. What does it mean for you personally?
5. **James 1:22** says “*Don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves*.” What is the next step you need to take in response to God’s word? (i.e. obedience)

**PRAYER POINTS**

* For each individual to have a personal revelation of what these scriptures mean for them.
* Pray for your non-church friend that you are discipling.
* Pray for wisdom to set up healthy boundaries.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Family service:** 1st July 2018, 5pm | Soup and bread after the service

**Next Baptism Service:** 29 July 10 am, more info email [reception@elimdunedin.com](mailto:reception@elimdunedin.com)