

1/26/2025

NOW OR NEVER

PART IV: I WILL SET BOUNDARIES

Judges 13:2-5 (NLT). In those days a man named Manoah from the tribe of Dan lived in the town of Zorah. His wife was unable to become pregnant, and they had no children. The angel of the Lord appeared to Manoah's wife and said, "Even though you have been unable to have children, you will soon become pregnant and give birth to a son. So be careful; you must not drink wine or any other alcoholic drink nor eat any forbidden food. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and his hair must never be cut. For he will be dedicated to God as a Nazirite from birth. He will begin to rescue Israel from the Philistines."

Dr. Henry Cloud: A boundary is a clearly defined line between what I am comfortable with and what is acceptable, and also what I am not comfortable with and what is not acceptable.

REMEMBER: God-given potential, without intentional boundaries protecting that calling, leads to a life of self-destruction.

Proverbs 25:28 (NLT). A person without self-control ["who does not control his temper"] is like a city with broken down walls ["an unprotected city"].

BOUNDARIES I NEED TO SET IN 2025:

1. THE [PLACES] I GO.

Judges 14:1-3a (NIV). Samson went down to Timnah and saw there a young Philistine woman. When he returned, he said to his father and mother, "I have seen a Philistine woman in Timnah; now get her for me as my wife." His father and mother replied, "Isn't there an acceptable woman among your relatives or among all our people? Must you go to the uncircumcised Philistines to get a wife?"

Every time we go to places where we shouldn't be at, we descend a little further down this path of self-destruction.

Proverbs 14:12 (NIV). There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

2. THE AREAS OF MY LIFE THAT I [NURTURE].

Judges 14:3b (NLT). But Samson told his father, "Get her for me! She looks good to me."

Galatians 5:19-21 (NLT). When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear. sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

3. THE VALUES I [COMPROMISE].

Judges 16:4 (NIV). Some time later, he fell in love with a woman in the Valley of Sorek whose name was Delilah.

J.D. Greear. You cannot treat obedience to God lightly and expect God's blessing continually.

Romans 12:2 (NLT). Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

