

Completing the Parenting Puzzle Boundaries

Hebrews 12:11

All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

God expects Christian families to follow his example and set boundaries with consequences. Adam and Eve had restrictions, the temple had its limits, and the law laid down clear boundaries. To go beyond where God instructs always has significant outcomes. The reason for boundaries is protection, growth, and clarity.

As parents, we need to establish clear boundaries for the same purpose. We also need to enforce the consequences that have been laid out when the limits are exceeded.

We need to understand that

1. Boundaries are a sign of love.
Proverbs 3:11-12, 13:24, 23:13-14, Ephesians 6:4
2. Clearly set boundaries protect us and our children.
Proverbs 6:16-19, Psalm 119:11, 3 John 1:11, Ephesians 5:1
3. Boundaries provide the best environment for growth.
Jeremiah 29:11, John 10:10, Proverbs 14:7. 19:20
4. Our boundaries help develop our identity.
Matthew 11:29-30, Hebrews 12:7-8, Colossians 1:10, Romans 12:1-2