

The Peril of Evangelism

- As we study with others and listen to their views, our convictions are challenged.
- There are so many alternative views today. We hear reasoning that will create doubt.
- Yet God knew the truth would make us free and that we could overcome all obstacles.
- *that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, Eph. 4:14-15*

The Truth always Makes Free

- *Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Jn. 8:31-32*
- The process is always the same.
- 1. We hear an argument we can't answer.
- 2. We begin to search the Scriptures.
- 3. We find verses, seek truth, craft a defense.

For Every truth Satan has a Lie

- *But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; 1Pet. 3:15-16*
- It doesn't matter what you believe... Sincere
- Accept Christ ... Join church of your choice.
- We are saved by grace through faith ... Not Works
- Many different paths ... but all leading to heaven
- We have to defend the truth against these lies.

Lines and Boundaries

- *If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth,*
- *What if we don't? What if we don't abide?*
- *Whosoever goes onward and abides not in the teaching of Christ, has not God: he that abides in the teaching, the same has both the Father and the Son. 2Jn. 9*
- *Truth in Scripture creates boundaries we dare not cross.*
- *We are very familiar with boundaries.*

Lines & Boundaries

- Everything has boundaries Physics, Chemistry, law, math ... Often a line between Life / Death.
- All competition and sports events have them.
- Baseball has boundaries: foul / homerun, strikes,
- Basketball, Football, Golf & Hockey; All use.
- It is interesting how closely fans will watch a foot, or the slow motion of the ball to see if boundaries were crossed in their favor.

Lines & Boundaries

- ✦ *if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. 2 Tim 2:5*
- ✦ We have seen reputations ruined and people disqualified when boundaries crossed.
- ✦ A critical score or play is wiped clean because someone's foot crossed a line or someone moved too soon.
- ✦ This is not “*unfair*” it is the foundation of “*fairness*”

Referees, Umpires & Judges

- Closely watch the game/contest.
- Foul play, cheating, violation of rules.
- The whistle blows; the play is voided or the competitor is disqualified.
- Paul knew God would do the same thing.
- *but I buffet my body and make it my slave, lest possibly, after I have preached to others, I myself should be disqualified. 1 Cor. 9:27*

Boundaries

- **Not Just Sports!**
- **Lines on a Pattern**
- **Measuring Cup**

- *Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2Tim 2:15*
- *“cut a straight line”*



Boundaries

- **Borders of a Nation**
- **Lines on the Road**
- **Coloring book**

Thus says Jehovah, Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way; and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls: but they said, We will not walk (therein). Jer. 6:16



Boundaries

- **A narrow trail in the Mountains**

Enter in by the narrow gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leads to destruction, and many are they that enter in thereby. 14 For narrow is the gate, and straitened the way, that leads unto life, and few are they that find it. Mt 7:13-14



Boundaries & Lines

- **Around dangerous things: “No Trespassing”**
- **In the Garden of Eden**
 - Only one boundary
 - Placed around one tree.
- **Why was that boundary there?**
- ***In the day you eat it you will surely die!***
Gen 2:16-17



“No Trespassing”

- Electrical Substation
- Not to curtail enjoyment or freedom.
- To Keep us Safe!
- After Sin entered the world God placed boundaries around
- Our lives, marriage, possessions, emotions, and words.
- Also Worship & Doctrine.
- Not to be confining: To keep us safe and right

Our Adversary

- Sought to portray boundaries differently.
- Gen 3:4-5
- Sounded innocent and convincing.
- Jesus later revealed its true motive. Jn 8:44
- It was a lie designed to kill
- Always when God's boundaries are set aside due to temptation – it is designed to kill.
James 1:13-15

Boundaries Protect

- As teenagers we never believed that!
- Every prohibition was set up to be a fence in which the grass was greener and the activity more enticing.
- Paul found this to be true also. Rom 7:7-13
- Every time we set aside a boundary we risk death and destruction.