

**Healthy Boundaries Series: Love and Marriage**

A. Matthew 10 – “If they reject you, shake the dust off your feet”

B. 8 Marriage Killer Sins

1. Verbal Abuse
2. Physical Abuse
3. Drug, Pornography, and/or Alcohol Abuse
4. Destructive Criticism and Incessant \_\_\_\_\_
5. Dishonesty and Lying
6. Financial irresponsibility
7. Infidelity
8. Your spouse disrespecting your \_\_\_\_\_

C. Setting the “Ground Rules”/Boundaries

1. All couples need to discuss and come to terms with what constitutes “marriage killer sins” for you. What are the boundaries and what is \_\_\_\_\_ limits, such that there is no question in either person’s mind what is “out of bounds” in the relationship.
2. In the game of life and marriage, even with our faith, Jesus says that there are certain boundaries that are fair game and certain boundaries that are off limits. And if someone ever hits the ball out of bounds, the proper course of action is to \_\_\_\_\_ playing the game, return to a place that is “in-bounds,” and then try again.
3. All of us must \_\_\_\_\_ and communicate healthy boundaries with our spouses; You let them know what is in or out of bounds when we play this game of marriage; if they (or you) step out of bounds, you momentarily stop the game, regroup, and then begin again once everyone is within the playing field
  - a) Your own Example?
  - b) I.e., “this conversation will not continue until you are playing within the rules again, until you are playing a fair game”

D. John 8 – Woman Caught in Adultery

1. By drawing a line in the sand, Jesus was saying to those Pharisees, “By bringing this woman to me, you have \_\_\_\_\_ the line. And I will not play this game with you.”

E. Don’t play games with people who are engaged in \_\_\_\_\_ and evil

F. In the most loving and gracious way possible, draw your own lines in the sand; understand what boundaries you need to not get sucked into the darkness of sin and evil, and then allow God to strengthen and guide you so that you can find and maintain the healing and wholeness that He has wanted for you from the beginning.

B. negativity 8. faith C1. off 2. stop 3. establish D1 crossed E. sin