

Rumble Strips

Are We There Yet?

One of the challenges of family is that you don't get to pick yours. You are born or adopted into it and you don't get any say about the whole thing. This week we will zero in on some unique challenges when it comes to putting down some boundaries with our friends.

Day 1 Read Genesis 16:1-6, Genesis 25:19-28

One of the things we heard in worship this past weekend is that we are deeply impacted by our family of origin. What sort of dysfunction do you see passed down here in the first family of God? What sort of boundary conflicts do you see happening here as well? In what ways do you relate to some of the dysfunction in these families?

Day 2 Read Matthew 19:1-6

What sort of wisdom does this offer us about boundary issues within the family unit? What does it mean to leave and cleave? Why is this so hard for some of us to do?

Day 3 Read Matthew 18:10-20

I know we read this passage last week, but it is worth revisiting. One of the boundary issues that shows up in families is often called triangulation. It's when we avoid directly confronting the person we have an issue with and instead involve other people. What sort of wisdom does this offer us in terms of that boundary issue?

Day 4 Read Luke 15:11-32

In perhaps the most famous parable of all time, what can we learn from the father about healthy boundaries in the family unit? How do you see the father "staying in his lane?" How can you do the same in your family relationships?



Day 5 Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

What sort of good news does this offer those of us who have come from a really dysfunctional family of origin? The first rule of the road in laying down boundaries is to “Look Both Ways,” which means we have to own our responsibility in all of it. What is our responsibility when it comes to living into our gospel-given identity as a new creation?

Day 6 Read Matthew 10:32-39

This is a hard word, but an important one when it comes to putting down boundaries in our family. What sort of wisdom does it offer us when it comes to “Staying in Our Lane?” How does it challenge you? How does it encourage you?

Day 7 Read Matthew 12:46-50

What can we learn from Jesus here about having healthy boundaries with our family of origin? Spend some time today in prayer asking God to give you the wisdom to identify what sort of rumble strips you need to put down with your family of origin and also as God for the courage to see it through.

