



Discussion Guide for “Boundaries”

Broken Promises Week 1

How often do we associate religion with a list of don'ts? These prohibitions often seem to be the heart of religious life. But this first Sunday of Lent reminds us that God created us primarily for *permission*. God created us for freedom - and an essential component of real freedom is boundaries. How do God's prohibitions orient us toward the true freedom God created us for?

Passage for Sacred Reading:

Sacred Reading is a way of reading Scripture with an eye toward transformation, not just information. Get a [step-by-step guide here](#). The passage for this week's sacred reading is Matthew 3:1-11.

Questions for Discussion

1. Do you consider yourself a rule follower? Why or why not?
2. Revisit God's law in Genesis 2. How do we see both prohibition *and* permission? Are those both things you've associated with this story previously?
3. Consider Jesus' temptations in Matthew 4. What is at stake in each of the temptations? How do you see Jesus exercising faith in each temptation?
4. What permissions do you see in God's way for our world today?
5. What prohibitions do you see in God's way for our world today?