

The First 5 of 10

GOOD FENCES

Good relationships _____ that I have good boundaries.

Proverbs 4:23 (NLT) *Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.*

Law #1: My actions have _____.

_____ and _____ consequences

Galatians 5:7,8 (NLT) *Don't be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant.*

8 Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.

Consequences should _____

Consequences are not _____

_____ is appropriate

FREEDOM = _____ = CONSEQUENCES = _____

Law #2: I am responsible _____ myself (and _____ others).

Proverbs 19:19 (NLT) *Hot-tempered people must pay the penalty. If you rescue them once, you will have to do it again.*

We are responsible for our _____, our _____, and our _____.

There's a difference being _____ and being _____

Law #3: I can't do it _____, but I'm not _____ either.

2 Corinthians 4:4 (NLT) *Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe.*

I don't have the power to...	I do have the power to...
Survive without needing others	Choose whom I depend on
Do whatever I desire	Do what I am able
Avoid consequences	Adjust so as to minimize consequences
Avoid failure	Accept failure, learn, and improve

Law #4: I am not the only one who _____.

Matthew 7:12 (NLT) *Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you.*

1 Corinthians 5:5 (NLT) *...[Love] does not demand its own way...*

One of the most important aspects of a good fence is _____.

Law #5: The _____ to say yes depends on the _____ to say no.

2 Corinthians 9:7 (NLT) *You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."*

1 John 4:17, 18 (NLT) *And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world. 18 Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear.*

Law #6: I am responsible to evaluate the pain our boundaries cause others. [Law of Evaluation]

Is it harm or hurt? Does it lead to injury or growth?

Law #7: I am responsible to be proactive rather than reactive. [Law of Proactivity]

Solve problems without waiting until we are reacting. Be intentional rather than accidental (unwitting, unknowing, mistaken, misguided, unimportant) Take deliberate thought-out actions based on our values, instead of reacting to our emotions.

Law #8: I cannot get what I want if my focus is outside my boundary. [Law of Envy]

Envy devalues what we have. Envy says what we have is not enough.

Law #9: I am responsible to take the initiative. [Law of Activity]

I must act and not wait for someone else to make the first move to correct a problem.

Law #10: I am responsible to communicate my boundaries to others. [Law of Exposure]

For example, a spouse's self-centeredness bothers the other. The other must communicate that, instead of hiding. Hiding insures that love will struggle.