

# Fences For Our Own Character

Setting limits on our \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the most \_\_\_\_\_ things you can do for others.

*Romans 7:15-18 (Msg) What I don't understand about myself is that I decide one way, but then I act another, doing things I absolutely despise. So if I can't be trusted to figure out what is best for myself and then do it, it becomes obvious that God's command is necessary. But I need something more! For if I know the law but still can't keep it, and if the power of sin within me keeps sabotaging my best intentions, I obviously need help! I realize that I don't have what it takes. I can will it, but I can't do it.*

*Romans 7:24-25 (Msg) I've tried everything and nothing helps. I'm at the end of my rope. Is there no one who can do anything for me? Isn't that the real question? The answer, thank God, is that Jesus Christ can and does. He acted to set things right in this life of contradictions where I want to serve God with all my heart and mind, but am pulled by the influence of sin to do something totally different.*

You can't change yourself by just \_\_\_\_\_ it to be so; but you do have \_\_\_\_\_.

- Be \_\_\_\_\_ about your faults
- Bring faults to light = \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ and work on faults

## Six Character Issues Where We Need Limits

1. Playing \_\_\_\_\_

*John 14:23-24 Jesus replied, "All those who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and live with them. Anyone who doesn't love me will not do what I say."*

2. \_\_\_\_\_

*1 John 1:8 If we say we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and refusing to accept the truth.*

3. \_\_\_\_\_ From Relationship

***James 4:8 Draw close to God and God will draw close to you.***

4. \_\_\_\_\_

***Gal 6:4-5 Be sure to do what you should, for then you will enjoy the personal satisfaction of having done your work well, and you won't need to compare yourself to anyone else. For we are each responsible for our own conduct.***

5. \_\_\_\_\_

***Phil 2:4 Don't think only about your own affairs, but be interested in others, too, and what they are doing.***

6. \_\_\_\_\_

***1 John 4:18 (Msg) There is no room in love for fear. Well-formed love banishes fear.***