

Lessons in Limitations Tim Chaddick

Some limits are bad-noble limits that looked so impressive. Talked a big game, it is exhausting. Not of exaggerated illusions, but to live within limits. 1. Recognize limits. We end up living in crashed civilization. Failed societies at the zenith of their greed and arrogance. Sense of distraction and disconnection. Need to be up to date, we become overloaded. Leaves us somewhat numb. Learned about rest and work. How do we discipline our lives. Putting these expectations on others. It destroys the people around us. Workaholics, 70% more hurt than alcoholic parents. Going beyond God-given limits is the reason that we fell. You can become like God. 2. Curbs exaggerated living. Online categories for weaknesses and faults. We hide our faults to give appearance. Image management, reflecting positive and not negative. Symptoms: Building yourself up-bragging about what they knew not, have not. Put other people down because they makes others insecure. Taking credit of other people's work. Only looking at "what if..." instead of "what is." Paul says in verse 7 "look at what is before your eyes." What kind of work do I actually do? Do you ask the people around you? Constant comparison to the accomplishments of others. One up-manship. Endless cycle of arrogance then insecurity. We become unaware of what God is doing. Pause and take Paul's advice. Stop right now and look at what is before you. What is it that drives us to go beyond the limits. You are trying to prove yourself to someone. Commend ourselves. To set a person up as worthy. Pursue a glory. Leaders looking impressive. When we go beyond God's limits, we are advancing our cause. Limits can cause us to reflect our own motives. When we recognize limits, we stop and reflect what's going on in us. "Slowing down" today when you go to the grocery store, pick the longest line in the store, talk to God about how you feel. You have a tendency to rush through things. We have a family time for majestic gardens, and I am rushing them to go. Need to be needed. Starving for praise. Exposes your need to be successful. Need to avoid what is in front of you. Cultivates humility. God is God and we are not. Learn to receive limits. Though we do not choose the times in which we live, but you choose today how you are going to live. Dictated more like culture in which you live. Choosing to live w/in God's boundaries.

1. Matter of living according to Scripture. Went beyond sound doctrine
2. Moral, ethical and spiritual boundaries. Our authority.
3. Living within your sphere of responsibility. Responsibilities given to you now. Hopes and dreams? Paul's hope that gospel would spread.

What are some of these noble limits.

1. Your physical frame. You have a body. It can only be in one place or one time. Your finiteness does not equal sinfulness.
2. Only 24 hours in every day. It's all we have. We must make a decision. How are we going to live in this day.
3. Your work. Your current job may not be your ideal job. Be faithful in that job. Giving a cup of cold water in my name. Marital status. Some of you want to be married. Good desire. It may be that you will get married. What does it mean

to live a single man or woman to the glory of God. What does it mean to focus and spend time with your children.

4. You have permanent commitments. Your day is to be shaped by these permanent commitments. Daily decisions either reinforce or deter permanent commitments. Live Sabbaths. So we can focus-making space. Lesson you are to rise up to responsibility-take it, own it. Be faithful.
5. One of the fruits of these disciplines is focus. More aware of these priorities. Bad habits. Most things that are good for you take discipline.

Some of you have gone beyond your limits and have broken them, or shrunken back from them. This needs to change.