Discussion Ideas

Choose strategies from the list below to facilitate group discussion.

Connecting Activity

Ask each person to fill in the blank to this statement:
One time I made a good choice to _____ and it turned out great! (Examples: studied hard for a test, refused to drink alcohol, helped a friend, etc.)

Discussion Questions

1. What purposes do fences and boundaries serve?
   - *They protect, keep things in, keep things out.*

2. Why was Grandma's garden trampled?
   - *Her fence was weak, not kept in good repair.*

3. ▶How does Grandma practice self-control and strengthen her own personal fences?
   - *She puts "fences" around her heart and her mouth so she won't falsely accuse; as a young girl, she makes the choice to abstain from sex until marriage.*

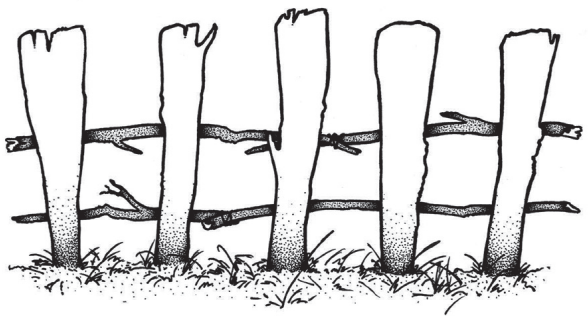
4. What fence has Chokoza failed to build in his own life? What are the results?
   - *He drinks alcohol; he loses his eye sight.*

5. ▶Think about your own personal dreams and values. What personal boundaries will help you achieve your dreams?
   - *Wait until marriage for sex, no alcohol or drugs, refrain from fighting, stay in school, etc.*

6. ▶Grandma says, "We need to build fences around our lives, around our character, and we need to watch those fences so we do not forget about them and let them fall down". What do you need to do to build and protect the fences around your heart and mind?
   - *Make changes in relationships, ask someone for help, practice self-control, stop doing something that makes your own personal fence weak.*

Personal Growth Activity

Interview a trusted adult. Ask them what boundaries they have set for their life so that they make good decisions and avoid dangers.



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Spiritual Application

Read Psalm 141:3-4. Then ask: What personal boundary does this person want to set? What does this person ask God to do in order to set and protect this boundary?

Prayer Point

Lead the group in a prayer asking God for courage to set and protect their personal boundaries. Pray that hearts would not be drawn to evil, but to good.

Encouragement

Encourage participants that they can begin making choices today to set healthy boundaries in their lives. You may want to share a story about a personal boundary you have set in your own life. Consider reading part of Grandma's Wisdom to close the group time.

Grandma's Wisdom

Some people never recover from foolish choices they make early in life. They could have escaped many pains if they made good fences around their minds and hearts when they were young. It takes courage to make boundaries for yourself, and to protect them. It takes courage to ask others to respect our personal boundaries. What are going to be your fences as you go through life? Think about that.