

The Principles Session 4

1. Borderland is the space where Comfort Zones overlap.
2. Borderland attracts people whom your dream affects.
3. Borderland is the boundary of other people's "walls of fear."

"If the Comfort Zone is our prison, those in the Borderland are the "prison guards" or Border Patrol.

- Border Bullies are those who attempt to push us back toward our Comfort Zone.
- Border Bullies are those who neither encourage or discourage us.
- Border Bullies are those who open doors for us, speeding us onward toward the dream.

The Pitfalls Session 4

Myths and misconceptions about the Borderland.

1. "Those around me will share my dreams."
Truth: Others' Comfort Zones will intersect with yours, and these people will be threatened in some way by your dreams.

2. "I won't be bruised by conflicts on the Borderland."
Truth: These conflicts can last for years, and be very damaging to our hearts and our aspirations.

The Pattern Session 4

1. Border Bullies exaggerate the dangers.

And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, "The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size." Numbers 13:32

2. Border Bullies complain about the difficulties.

They gave Moses this account: "We went into the land to which you sent us... But the people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large." Numbers 13:27

3. Border Bullies idealize the "good old days."

And again the Israelites started wailing and said, "If only we had meat to eat!... But now we have lost our appetite; we never see anything but this manna." Numbers 11:4

4. Become a Border Buster for Others

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." Ephesians 4:29

4 Bully Types:

- The Alarmist says "It's not safe"
- The Traditionalist says "It's not the way we do it."
- The Defeatist says "It's not possible."
- The Antagonist says "I won't let you!"

My Own Journey Session 4

1. The following describes my current or most memorable experience with "border bullies":

Here is the way that person's Comfort Zone overlapped mine:

2. Based upon the 4 patterns of border bully behavior on page 36, the one I have encountered most is:

3. Here is a complete list of the people who are - or may become - border bullies as I pursue my dream:

Here are some "border busters" who may help me pursue my dream:

4. I believe the best way for me to deal lovingly with the border bullies in my life, while still moving forward with my dream, would be:

5. I realize there are others around me who are processing their own dreams. I would most closely identify myself as a ___ border bully; ___ border buddy; ___ border buster. Here is the name of one person whom I can help to pursue his or her dream:

6. I hereby commit myself not to be intimidated by border bullies, but to lovingly defend my dream and move toward reaching it.

Signed:

Date:

My Groups Journey Session 4

1. The video presentation offers a skit that demonstrates various kinds of people who discourage us from our dreams. Allow each person in the group to share a) which one they recognized most and b) which one they are most like in relation to other's dreams.

2. Read Numbers 13:32-33. To what extent were the ten spies being realistic? What were they lacking in their perspective?

3. Read Proverbs 29:25. A Snare is a hidden trap for unwary creatures. How does fear become a snare for border bullies? For dreams intimidated by the bullies?

4. Galatians 2:9 shows how fellow believers encouraged Paul's dream of bringing the gospel to the Gentiles. What are some guidelines for "recognizing the grace" in our friends' dreams, so that we can be border busters?

5. In groups of two or three, spend your remaining time formulating plans for handling difficult relationships with those on the borders of our dream pursuits.