



Have you ever seen false advertisements. Like those cheesy commercials that make simple tasks like putting your socks on super difficult without a product called sock-eaze? Or one of those weight loss

commercials that says go from looking like Shrek to the Hulk in three short hours with a pill? About month ago there was a huge boxing match that was falsely advertised for months - Floyd Mayweather vs Manny Pacquiao. It was advertised as one of the best fights ever to take place. Two boxing greats. When it actually happened, though, experts say it was one of the worst fights ever. Very dull and boring. It was built up like a great fight, but it wasn't. Today, we are going to look at two other ideas that have been advertised as worthy opponents. Standards vs. Sanctification. They have been built up by some people as opposing views. This morning we are going to see that they are actually on the same team.

Sanctification: The process of God's grace by which the believer is separated from sin and becomes dedicated to God's righteousness.

A **principle** is a Bible truth I must live by. (Non-negotiable)

A **conviction** is a personal belief based on a principle.

A **standard** is a guideline to help me maintain my convictions.

A **preference** is my personal desire in an area where no principle is involved.

All of the above ought to be submissive under the umbrella of **the authority of your parents.**

Theme: Setting personal standards will aid in your sanctification!

Caution: Your personal standards do not equal your sanctification!

I. **The Seeming Conflict.**

A. **Some may say, "High Standards = Mark of Maturity"**

"Danger": This may bring accusations of legalism.

B. **Others may say, "Much Love = No need for standards"**

II. **The Scriptural Comments**

A. **Your standards must be balanced with and controlled by love.** (I Corinthians 8)

B. **Your standards must be controlled by your conscience.** (Romans 14:23)

III. **The Suggested Course**

A. **Develop a Biblical conviction.** (Psalm 101)

The biblical conviction is based on the biblical **principle** you've looked up in God's Word about the issue you're researching.

B. **Establish a personal standard.**

Setting personal standards will aid in your sanctification! Standards are not opposed to your sanctification. The Bible gives us examples of those who instituted standards in their life to keep them away from sin. It has given us principles about setting up boundaries in our life. "make no provision for the flesh." If you have questions or concerns about an area of your life, you must search the Scripture for principles upon which you can base your convictions. Now, set up personal standards that will make it hard for you to sin.