

The Illusion of Control

The REAL answer God gives us
...



Message Summary

Control is an illusion. God calls us to surrender. True freedom comes when we yield control to the Holy Spirit, living with His power, love, and self-control.

Key Scriptures

For God did not give us a Spirit of fear but of power and love and self-control.

2 Timothy 1:7 (NET)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV)

Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city.

Proverbs 16:32 (NIV)

As Paul talked about righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and said, "That's enough for now! You may leave. When I find it convenient, I will send for you."

Acts 24:25 (NIV)

Start Talking

Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What's one thing that would never last overnight in your house (like pizza, ice cream, or chips)?
- Watch this week's Sermon Refresh: [Here](#) (Available Mondays)

Start Thinking

Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Please read the Key Scriptures on the left.
- Why do you think the Bible points us to self-control as something that only comes from the Spirit?

Start Sharing

Choose a question(s) to create openness.

- From this week's Scriptures, what do we learn about the difference between God's control, our self-control, and our responsibility?
- Where do you see our culture confuse responsibility with trying to control outcomes?
- What's one area of your life where you need to shift from grasping for control to faithfully taking responsibility?

Start Praying

*God, grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change,
Courage to change the things we can,
And wisdom to know the difference.*

Start Doing

For those who haven't yet given their life to Christ: Visit your campus' **Next Steps Center** to talk with someone about following Jesus or to ask any questions. If you're ready to be baptized, you can register here:

<https://ccv.church/baptism>

For followers of Jesus: Pick one of this week's Scriptures (2 Timothy 1:7, Galatians 5:22-23, Proverbs 16:32, Acts 24:25). Each morning, read it as a reminder that real control belongs to God, and ask Him to grow self-control in you.

Special Invitation

Men: Join us at [Men's Night](#) on October 2nd and come with the men from your group.

Women: We'd love for you to use this evening to gather on your own and enjoy celebrating the amazing women God made you to be.