



Small Group Sermon Guide

Feb 25 & 26, 2017, Pastor Jamie Rasmussen

Knowledge | 2 Peter 1:5-6

^{ESV} **2 Peter 1:5-6** For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with *self-control*...

Main Point: The secret to self-control is God-control.

Take Home Point: Learn to walk as a dead man.

^{ESV} **Romans 6:8, 11** Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. ...11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

GETTING TO KNOW ME

Instructions: The purpose of these questions is to generate responses that are self-revealing and informative. Feel free to ask all of these questions to your group or simply choose the one that best fits your group.

1. In what areas do you demonstrate self-control? In what areas do you lack self-control?
2. What have you done in the past to increase self-control?

INTO THE BIBLE

Instructions: The purpose of these questions is to draw group members into the Bible to discover truth from passages that were not the primary text for the weekend message.

1. Read 1 Corinthians 7:8-9. In this context, what does it mean when someone “cannot exercise self-control?” What’s Paul’s solution for those who cannot exercise self-control? Is that a fair command for a single person? Why or why not? Is it too forward for a Christian to encourage their single brothers and sisters to marry? Again, why or why not?
2. Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-27. What’s the cost if we choose not to exercise self-control? Paul teaches that the goal of winning should determine our lifestyle? What rewards would you win in the areas where you need to exercise self-control?
3. Read Acts 24:24-25. What did Paul share with Felix? Why did Paul talk self-control with him? What was Felix’s response to Paul’s message? What does this mean for the way we ought to share our faith with others?

APPLICATION

Instructions: The purpose of these questions is to apply the main points from the weekend message.

1. What's the problem of the self controlling the self? Where are you practicing "self controlling the self" in your life?
2. How do we turn this call to self-control into "God-control?" Give an example from your own life.
3. What were the five things that will lead you to greater self-control? How would you practically work out these things in the areas of your life that need more self-control? (Perhaps you could pick one or two that were most meaningful to you and share you plan to work them out in your life with your group.) How can your group help you practice these things?

PRAYER

Instructions: In addition to your normal time of prayer, please spend some time praying through the following points from the sermon.

1. Take a moment to confess to God the areas that you lack self-control.
2. Pray that God would give you greater self-control in areas of weakness.