

Direct Control not Influence / Management

CONTROL

James 4:13-17

- [13](#) Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit." [14](#) Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are *just* a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. [15](#) Instead, you *ought* to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that." [16](#) But as it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil. [17](#) Therefore, to one who knows *the* right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

CONTROL

- **What do we control?**
 - **Car?** - ticket for out of control
 - **Kids?** - umm, ok...
 - **Checking account?** - Fraud
 - **Future?** – How many people thought you would be where you are now 5 years ago?
 - **Where you are going?**
 - **What you will do tomorrow?**
 - **One hour from now?**
- **Self ??????????**

SELF - TONGUE

- [Ps 34:13](#)
- Keep your tongue from evil And your lips from speaking deceit.
- [Ps 39:1](#)
- I said, "I will guard my ways That I may not sin with my tongue; I will guard my mouth as with a muzzle While the wicked are in my presence."
- [Pr 21:23](#)
- He who guards his mouth and his tongue, Guards his soul from troubles.
- [Jas 1:26](#)
- If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his {own} heart, this man's religion is worthless.
- [1Pe 3:10](#)
- For, "THE ONE WHO DESIRES LIFE, TO LOVE AND SEE GOOD DAYS, MUST KEEP HIS TONGUE FROM EVIL AND HIS LIPS FROM SPEAKING DECEIT."

SELF - TONGUE

- [Jas 3 1-12](#)
- ¹Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, that as such we will incur a stricter judgment. ²For we all stumble in many ways. If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body as well.³ Now if we put the bits into the horses' mouths so that they will obey us, we direct their entire body as well. ⁴Look at the ships also, though they are so great and are driven by strong winds, are still directed by a very small rudder wherever the inclination of the pilot desires. ⁵So also the tongue is a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things. See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire!⁶ And the tongue is a fire, the very world of iniquity; the tongue is set among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the course of our life, and is set on fire by hell. ⁷For every species of beasts and birds, of reptiles and creatures of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by the human race. ⁸But no one can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison.⁹ With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God;¹⁰ from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way. ¹¹Does a fountain send out from the same opening both fresh and bitter water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brethren, produce olives, or a vine produce figs? Nor can salt water produce fresh.

SELF - ACTIONS

- [2 Pet 1:5-8](#) Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, ⁶and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, ⁷and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love. ⁸For if these *qualities* are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- [1 Tim 3:1-11](#) It is a trustworthy statement; if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do. ²An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money. ⁴He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity ⁵(but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?
- [1 Cor 9:27](#) - I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

CONTROL – LOSE IT?

We only control ourselves. Can we hand this control to someone else unwillingly? Willingly?

- **Unwillingly:**
- Temper – "He lost control"
 - You hand over control to the one who incited your anger. No longer sober minded.
- Drugs / alcohol – hand over control to a substance.
- **Willingly:**
- **Josh 24:** ¹⁴ "Now, therefore, fear the LORD and serve Him in sincerity and truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵ "If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

SELF-STATE OF MIND

- **Happiness is a choice**
- **Phil 4** ⁸ Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things. ² The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.
- **Ec 3:22** - I have seen that nothing is better than that man should be **happy** in his activities, for that is his lot. For who will bring him to see what will occur after him?
- **Ec 7:14** - In the day of prosperity be happy, But in the day of adversity consider-- God has made the one as well as the other So that man will not discover anything {that will be} after him.

SELF-STATE OF MIND

- **What makes us happy?**
- **Ps 128:2** - When you shall eat of the fruit of your hands, You will be **happy** and it will be well with you.
- **Pr 3:18** - (wisdom) is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, And **happy** are all who hold her fast.
- **Pr 14:21** - who despises his neighbor sins, But **happy** is he who is gracious to the poor.
- **Pr 29:18** - Where there is no vision, the people are unrestrained, But **happy** is he who keeps the law. (**Ac 26:14** ...It is hard for you to kick against the goads.)
- **Phil 4:4-7** ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentle *spirit* be known to all men. The Lord is near. ⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
- **Ecc 12:13-14** ¹² The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this *applies* to every person. ¹⁴ For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.

GOD CONTROLS...

- **1Co 15:27**
- For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET. But when He says, "All things are put in subjection," it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him.
- **1Co 16:16**
- that you also be in subjection to such men and to everyone who helps in the work and labors.
- **Ga 2:5**
- But we did not yield in subjection to them for even an hour, so that the truth of the gospel would remain with you.
- **Eph 1:22**
- And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church,
- **Heb 2:8**
- YOU HAVE PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET." For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that is not subject to him. But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him.

CONTROL

- **Why did God give us free will?**
- **1Ki 8:61** - Let your heart therefore be **loyal** to the Lord our God, to walk in His statutes and keep His commandments, as at this day."
- **1Ch 28:9** - "As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a **loyal** heart and with a willing mind; for the Lord searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever.
- **2Ch 16:9** - For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is **loyal** to Him. In this you have done foolishly; therefore from now on you shall have wars."
- **2Ch 19:9** - And he commanded them, saying, "Thus you shall act in the fear of the Lord, faithfully and with a **loyal** heart:

CHOICE

- **Mt 6:24 / Lu 16:13** - "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.
- **Josh 24** - ¹⁴ "Now, therefore, fear the LORD and serve Him in sincerity and truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵ "If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."
- **Mt 12:30 / Lu 11:23** - He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad.

CHOOSE GOD

- ◉ Hear :
 - [Romans 10:14](#) How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher?
- ◉ Believe:
 - [Rom 10:9-10](#) ⁹ that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; ¹⁰ for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.
 - [John 20:31](#) but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.
 - [James 2:19](#), [Luke 4:34](#)
- ◉ Repent:
 - [Luke 13:3](#) ¹ I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.
 - [Mr 6:12](#) They went out and preached that (men) should repent.
- ◉ Confess:
 - [Rom 10:9-10](#) ⁹ that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; ¹⁰ for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

CHOOSE GOD

- ◉ Be Baptized:
 - [1 Pet 3:21](#) Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ
 - [Rom 6:4](#) Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.
 - [Mathew 3:16-17](#), [Colossians 1:22-23](#)
- ◉ Continue to choose God:
 - Faith comes by hearing
 - [Rom 10:17](#) So faith (comes) from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.
 - Continue to study / grow
 - [2 Tim 2:15](#) Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.
 - [Acts 17:11](#) Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great joy, examining the Scriptures daily (to see) whether these things were so.