



King of Virtues – Part 2: His Gifts of Self-Control and Perseverance

PASTOR BRIAN FLEWELLING

DECEMBER 8, 2024

WORSHIP

Begin your group with a time of worship. If someone in your group is able to lead worship, invite them to lead two or three songs. Alternatively, consider using one or more of these songs from our Sunday morning worship time:

- **Joy To The World (Joyful, Joyful)** (*Phil Wickham*)
- **King of Kings** (*Hillsong Worship*)
- **Reign Above It All** (*Bethel Music*)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- 2 Peter 1:5-6
- Hebrews 12:11
- Galatians 5:16-26

OPENING PRAYER

Begin with a prayer, asking God to guide your discussion and help you apply the lessons from the sermon.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. Christ is not just our Savior, but also our master and example to emulate.
2. Self-control is the capacity to refrain from what we shouldn't do and prevail in what we should.
3. True self-control comes from surrendering to Christ's control and relying on the Holy Spirit.
4. Perseverance is essential in our spiritual journey and growth.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Pastor Brian mentioned that Christianity isn't just about "free railroad tickets to heaven." How does this perspective challenge or affirm your understanding of faith?
2. Reflect on 2 Peter 1:5-6. How do you see the progression from faith to self-control to perseverance in your own life?
3. Share a personal experience where you struggled with self-control. How did it impact your spiritual journey?
4. Read Galatians 5:16-26 together. How does living by the Spirit contrast with living by the sinful nature in practical terms?
5. Pastor Brian presented three options when faced with temptation: indulge it, fight it, or choose Jesus. Share a time when you successfully chose Jesus in a challenging moment.
6. How might the concept of 'pruning your life' to flourish in specific areas relate to the development of self-control and perseverance? What area of your life might need pruning?

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

1. **Daily Surrender:** Commit to starting each day this week by consciously surrendering control to Christ.
2. **Spirit-Led Choices:** When faced with a decision or temptation, practice pausing to ask, "What would relying on Jesus look like in this moment?"
3. **Scripture Meditation:** Choose one verse from Galatians 5:22-23 (fruits of the Spirit) to meditate on each day this week.
4. **Accountability:** Partner with someone in the group to check in daily about your efforts to live by the Spirit and practice self-control.
5. **Reflection Journal:** Keep a daily log of moments when you felt challenged in self-control. Note how you responded and what you learned.

PRAYER

End the session by praying for each other, asking for God's strength in developing self-control and perseverance through reliance on the Holy Spirit.