

THE BEAUTIFUL NEXT



Part 5: Beware Of What Seems Right.

Proverbs 14:12

12There is a way that appears to be right,
but in the end it leads to death.

Categories of Control

Basket 1: No Control



You cannot change the
past, control the future, or
control other people.

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Basket 2: Partial Control



You have limited influence over your health, your work outcomes, and your relationships.

Basket 3: Full Control



You have total authority over your attitude, your actions, how you treat others, and your trust in God.

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Message notes:

Trust is just hard. It's _____ .

God's _____ in a hurry.

The first category is the category of no control. These are things you have nothing that you can do to change: the past, the future, and _____ .

The second box is things that you have just a little control over. This is kind of like your _____ .

Third category: full control. This is things like your _____ .

You cannot control how _____ God will reveal whatever next is in clarity.

Not every open door is a _____ door. Not every opportunity is a _____ opportunity.

He knows the plans. Why does He know? Because He _____ them.

Additional notes:

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Discussion Questions:

1. How does the statement “I doubt me more than I trust you” reflect a form of unbelief rather than humility?
2. Mother Teresa said she never prayed for clarity, only for trust. How would your prayer life change if you adopted this same approach?
3. Proverbs 14:12 warns that ‘there is a way that seems right to a man, but the end leads to death.’ What safeguards can you put in place to protect yourself from self-deception when making important decisions?
4. Look at the three categories of control: Things you can’t control - things you can control a little bit - things you can totally control. Where do you spend most of your mental and emotional energy?
5. Pastor Jamie shared about the decade-long process of choosing Pastor Jason as his successor—ultimately making an “unemotional decision” after years of prayer and counsel. What does this teach us about God’s timing and our responsibility to eventually “pull the trigger”?

Ministry Time:

Pray for anyone who is facing a decision. Invite the Spirit to give them wisdom, help them surrender control to God, and give them a bold faith to trust in His beautiful next.

Pray for group members who feel stuck in “box 1” (things they can’t control), and ask the Holy Spirit to give each person wisdom to clearly see what they can control in boxes 2 and 3 and the courage to act on it.