

From: Don Logan don@eternalchurch.net
Subject: Group Resource
Date: Mar 8, 2018 at 1:55:51 PM
To: Jacob Collins jacob@eternalchurch.net

A. SERMON SLIDES

Slide 1: Title
How To Be Good At Self-Control
Selected Proverbs

Slide 2:
Proverbs 16:32 (ESV)
Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty,
and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

Proverbs 23:19–21 (ESV)
Hear, my son, and be wise,
and direct your heart in the way.
Be not among drunkards
or among gluttonous eaters of meat,
for the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty,
and slumber will clothe them with rags.

Proverbs 25:28 (ESV)
A man without self-control
is like a city broken into and left without walls.

Slide 3:
I. Understanding what it is and why it is important
II. Understanding how to master self-control

Slide 4:
What and Why?
Webster: "Restraint exercised over one's own impulses, emotions, or desires."

Slide 5:

Facts:

- a) There is a battle
- b) The "self" is not good

Biblical conclusion:

The battle can not be won, the self cannot be tamed except by the gift of the Spirit (grace of God)

Slide 6:

"This sanctification is throughout the whole man, yet imperfect in this life; there abideth still some remnants of corruption in every part, whence ariseth a continual and irreconcilable war; the flesh lusting against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh. In which war, although the remaining corruption for a time may much prevail, yet, through the continual supply of strength from the sanctifying Spirit of Christ, the regenerate part doth overcome."

Westminster Confession of Faith 13

Slide 7:

Galatians 5:16 (ESV)

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

Slide 8:

Titus 2:1-6 (ESV)

But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. 2 Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. 3 Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, 4 and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, 5 to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. 6 Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled.

Slide 9:

Proverbs 25:28

A man without self-control
is like a city broken into and left without walls.

Slide 10:

Proverbs 4:23 (ESV)

Keep your heart with all vigilance,
for from it flow the springs of life.

Slide 11:

What can destroy our city?

- 1) Satan (demons)
- 2) World
- 3) Flesh

Slide 12:

Options:

- 1) God throws the "flesh" (old self) out, and he keeps coming back in
- 2) God threw the "flesh" out, I'm simply battling old habits (phantom enemy)
- 3) God takes claim of the city (paperwork), but He does a work with us (continually, over time) to take actual ownership

Slide 13:

Things I know:

- 1) Get ready first, and then relax

Slide 14:

Things I know:

- 1) Get ready first, and then relax
- 2) People do what they want to do

Slide 15:

James 1:14 (ESV)

But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire.

Slide 16:

Augustine and "Rightly Ordered Loves"

Slide 17:

'He made the pleasures: All our research so far has not enabled us to produce one. All we can do is to encourage the humans to take the pleasures which our Enemy has produced, at times, or in ways, or in degrees, which He has forbidden.'

C.S. Lewis

Slide 18:

Our loves are not rightly ordered, but our desires are always rightly ordered

Slide 19:

Definition:

Self-control is a gift produced by walking in the Spirit whereby we are given the ability to oppose our desires until such a time as our loves are rightly ordered and are desires become safe to obey.

Slide 20:

How?

1) Use your desires to diagnose your greater loves

Slide 21:

How?

1) Use your desires to diagnose your greater loves

2) Use grace to appropriate the greatest love, the greatest lover

Slide 22:

Titus 2:11–12 (ESV)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled...

Slide 23:

"Yet dearly I love You, and would be lov'd fain,
But am betroth'd unto your enemy;
Divorce me, untie or break that knot again,
Take me to You, imprison me, for I,
Except You enthrall me, never shall be free,
Nor ever chaste, except You ravish me."

B. GROUP DISCUSSION

1) What is self-control? Use Proverbs 25:28 to play out the simile. What is the city? What is the wall? What is broken down? Why does it matter in the illustration?

2) Pastor Don's definition: Please feel free to wrestle, talk, discuss and agree or disagree!

"Self-control is a gift produced by walking in the Spirit whereby we are given the ability to oppose our desires until such a time as our loves are rightly ordered and are desires become safe to obey."

3) Can you explain how our "loves" ARE NOT rightly ordered (because of original sin), but that our desires ARE rightly ordered?

4) Paul asked Titus to "teach" self-control to older men, younger men, older women, younger women, and slaves. With your working definition of self-control....how would you teach it?

Let Titus 2:11,12 and I Corinthians 10:13 guide you...

5) Talk about these steps:

- 1) Use desires to diagnose greater loves
- 2) Use grace to change our greatest love to the Greatest Lover

6) Do you remember the story of the Sirens?

(All of the boats crashed following their desires.

Odysseus was tied with ropes, and the others had their ears stopped up, and later there was sadness after passing safely through. Jason had Orpheus play a more beautiful song and the boat sailed safely through with no regret)

Compare these approaches with different ways Christians "sail" through life!....

7) Play "music" as a group. Go around and speak to one another about what Jesus means to you...what He has done in and through you.

--

Pastor Don Logan

Eternal Church

<https://eternalchurch.net/>

1787 Pleasant Road

Fort Mill, SC 29708-7862

PH: 803.802.3070