



Faith Community Church  
Control  
(Psalms, Part 9)

Faith Group Questions  
& Discussion Guide



🙏 **Opening Prayer:** Father, we start by blessing Your name today. Thank you that You are enough. Help us to grow in understanding how to surrender to You more fully.

🧊 **Icebreaker:** What is one thing— a literal theme park ride or a life experience— that filled you with both excitement and fear at the same time? How did you handle it?

🔑 **Key Points**

- 1. Praise is a Decision, Not a Feeling:** Blessing God during uncertain or chaotic seasons is an intentional choice rooted in His unchanging character rather than our fluctuating circumstances.
- 2. Joy Springs from Dependence, Not Control:** True joy and freedom come when we stop trying to control every detail of life and instead boast in Jesus' ability.
- 3. God Belongs at the Front, Not as a Backup:** Turning to God in prayer should be our immediate first response to fear and uncertainty, rather than an afterthought when our self-reliance fails.
- 4. Uncertainty is an Opportunity for Experience:** Difficult and uncertain seasons create the exact environment where we move from just knowing *about* God's goodness to personally tasting and experiencing it.

💬 **Discussion Questions (Read 2 Chronicles 20:1-30 - use this for questions 1-5)**

1. Did you praise before the answer, change praying for “what” to knowing “Who”, or engage in active waiting? Tell us about it!
2. Pastor Tim mentioned that fear is often the fruit of uncertainty. Looking at your current season, where do you feel uncertainty creeping in the most (e.g., job, health, family, expectations)?
3. David chose to bless the Lord even while hiding in a cave and fleeing danger. What makes it difficult to praise God when our circumstances feel chaotic or unfair?

4. Our culture tells us to look inward and affirm that "we are enough." How can it bring freedom to acknowledge that *only Jesus is enough*?
5. When faced with a crisis or tough decision, why is our natural tendency often to try fixing it ourselves before seeking God?
6. David writes in Psalm 34:8 to "*taste and see that the Lord is good.*" What is the difference between knowing theological facts about God's goodness and personally "tasting" it in your own life? (Philippians 3:4-11)
7. Read Philippians 2:14–15. How do the words coming out of our mouths (complaining vs. praising) impact our witness to the world around us during stressful seasons?
8. What does taking a posture of total surrender—like riding a roller coaster with arms raised—look like in practical, day-to-day terms for a Christian? (Proverbs 3:5-7)



### Practical Applications

1. **Shift the Speech (Complaint Audit):** Identify one area of your life where you default to complaining or worrying. Commit this week to replacing every complaint in that area with a specific declaration of God's past faithfulness or current goodness.
2. **First-Response Prayer Practice:** Before attempting to solve, manage, or troubleshoot a new problem that arises this week, pause immediately and offer a two-part prayer: bring your request (*petition*) and acknowledge who God is (*praise*).
3. **An "Uncertainty Audit" Surrender:** Write down the single biggest uncertainty you are carrying right now on a piece of paper. Pray over it, explicitly declare "*God, You know, and You are enough,*" and physically place it somewhere as a reminder that you are surrendering control to Him.



**Closing Prayer:** Lord Jesus, forgive us for leaning on our own strength as a first option. Help us to look to You, praise You, and give control of our lives to You.