

# Control Freaks: The Insanity of Wanting Control

## Today's Text – 1 Samuel 21-22, Psalm 34 & 56

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*He will call out to me, "You are my Father, my God, the Rock my Savior"*  
(Psalm 89:26)

- The more we take control, the more we \_\_\_\_\_
  
- No matter your location or condition, God is just \_\_\_\_\_

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*I sought the Lord, and He answered me. He delivered me from all my fears. (Psalm 34:4)*

- Don't be afraid to \_\_\_\_\_  
*When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise – in God I trust and am not afraid. What can mere man do to me? (Psalm 56:3-4)*  
*For you have delivered my soul from death and my feet from stumbling, that I may walk before God in the light of life. (Psalm 56:13)*

You can't follow Jesus with one hand behind your back!  
What are you hanging on to that you need to let go of?  
What might you receive from God if you let go of it?

\_\_\_\_ Today I choose to let go of \_\_\_\_\_ and to give control to  
God.

## For Further Action and Reflection:

- Plan to join us for worship this Wednesday night from 6:45-8:00
- Meditate on Psalms 34 & 56 and Luke 9:23-25.
- Read *When People are Big and God is Small* by Ed Welch
- Listen to "When I am Afraid" by Laura Hackett - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m41WT4\\_SJWM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m41WT4_SJWM)
- Listen to "Trust in You" by Lauren Daigle - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n\\_aVFVveJNs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_aVFVveJNs)
- Listen to "Psalm 34" by the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DfW2mkkMTAg>

## Questions for Reflection:

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. On a scale of 1-10, how much of a "control freak" are you? Explain why.
3. Which common statement is more helpful and why: "God helps those who help themselves" or "Let go and let God"?
4. Read 1 Samuel 21:8-9 when David asks for Goliath's sword. Are you ever tempted to look for help in something you know is completely powerless? What things are you tempted to try instead of the Lord?
5. In your own words, describe the difference between "doing God's work your way" and "doing God's work God's way."
6. Have you had any experience with "the law of unintended consequences"? Remember, sin takes you further than you want to go, keeps you longer than you want to stay, and costs you more than you want to pay. Share about any experience that might help others.
7. What verses stand out the most to you in Psalms 56 and 34? Why?
8. What is something you let go of and trusted God with in the past? What happened?
9. Remembering that we can't follow Jesus with one hand clenched behind our backs, is there anything you need to let go of in order to receive more of what God has for you? What could it look like for you to do this?
10. Spend some time praying for our church to grow in walking by faith and giving control to God.