



PART 1: Two Trees

INTRODUCTION

We all like certainty over uncertainty. We prefer feeling powerful to feeling vulnerable. Growing up, we were taught to be independent, not dependent on others. We want to prove we're in control. We have a need for control. So, where does that need come from and how does it affect our relationship with a God who wants control over all aspects of our lives?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is something you do really well. In what ways do you tend to take control in that area of your life? How is that a positive thing? How is it negative?
2. Talk about a time when you thought you were in control, but ended up with a big mess or a huge waste of time.
3. Read Genesis 3:1-9. After Adam and Eve eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, why would they respond by hiding from God?
4. What are some reasons people find it difficult to trust God? Do any of those reasons seem reasonable? Why or why not?
5. How would you finish this sentence: "If only I had control of _____."
6. Why is it difficult for you to trust God in that area of your life?

MOVING FORWARD

The struggle for control of our circumstances is one of the central conflicts of human life. Control gives us the illusion of stability and happiness, but it's just an illusion. So, if the solution to our problem is surrendering control to God, how do we do that? The process of surrendering control begins by deciding we can trust him.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

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

Proverbs 14:12