



## Under Control

God is \_\_\_\_\_, Ephesians 1:11

March 1, 2020

Community Group Discussion Questions

### PLEASE READ BEFORE LEADING DISCUSSION

- Recommended questions are highlighted in bold, but **select 5 or 6 questions** you think will work best for your group discussion. You likely won't have time to discuss all of the questions so choose which questions you will ask ahead of time and make sure to provide plenty of time to focus on the application questions.
- Feel free to edit or reword questions to best fit your group.
- You may want to print out copies of this document for everyone so they can follow along with the questions as you read them.
- Check out this Facilitation Guide (<http://bit.ly/CGFacilitationGuide>) for tips on leading good discussions.

### ICEBREAKER (5-10 Minutes)

1. Share your name and answer one the following questions:
  - What is one area of your life you wish you had more control over?
  - If you get to control the car stereo or TV remote what will you listen to or watch?

### OPENING THE DISCUSSION (5-10 Minutes) – Have someone recap the message in about a minute or two and then ask the following questions:

2. As you reflect on Sunday's message, what one principle or insight stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful, or difficult to grasp?
3. **Mark addressed 2 questions we may have about God's sovereignty: 1. If God is in control, then does what I do really matter in the end?. 2. If God is really in control, then how do we explain the mess the world seems to be in?**
  - Which of those questions do you find yourself wrestling with more?
  - In what ways have you tried to answer those questions for yourself?
4. Mark addressed 2 misconceptions we may believe about God's sovereignty: 1. I make no difference. (My choices don't matter) 2. I make the difference. (Only my choices matter)
  - Which of these misconceptions do you find yourself most often leaning toward?
5. In what ways do you struggle to live like God is in control?
6. **Mark shared that the "topic of God's sovereignty was never meant to be an endlessly debated subject, but an awe-inspiring, incomprehensible aspect of God's nature."**
  - How might understanding God's sovereignty lead us to worship?

### DIGGING DEEPER (10 Minutes) – ask everyone to follow along in their Bible or Bible app.

7. Read Ephesians 1:11.
  - How does the idea that "God is working out everything according to His will" make you feel?
8. Read Isaiah 46:9-11.
  - What words or phrases stand out of you from these verses about God's sovereignty?
9. For more scripture on God's sovereignty read and discuss these passages: Colossians 1:17; Psalm 115:3; Proverbs 21:1; Isaiah 10:15.

### APPLYING IT (10-20 Minutes)

10. Mark shared 3 ways we should respond to God's sovereignty: 1. Trust Fully. 2. Choose Wisely. 3. Worship Passionately.
  - Which of these responses is most needed in your life right now? and what would that look like?