

Series: Seven Additions to Faith
Title: Self Control
Text: 2 Peter 1:6

Introduction

The promises of God are great and precious, but we must appropriate and absorb them because we partake of the divine nature through them. Jesus secured our redemption on the Cross, but the depth of our relationship is linked to how deeply we partake of His divine nature.

1. The third rung after virtue and knowledge is "self-control" or what the King James Version calls _____ (KJV).
2. Self-control is to _____ your desires and passions, especially sensual appetites.
3. Self-control inspires _____.
4. Much of our _____ is entirely out of control.
5. You must be your own _____ and discipline yourself if you want to grow to maturity and be the person God created you to be.
6. God can supply the self-control part through the Holy Spirit, but we supply the self-_____ part.
7. In Galatians 5:22, the Apostle Paul names self-control as _____ of the Spirit.
8. Without self-control, your chances of bad experiences are dramatically _____!
9. Paul compared his life to that of an athlete who must embrace _____ training and discipline if he genuinely wants to be competitive.

10. Self-control is necessary because the _____ in any situation can become harmful if they are not properly directed.
11. God wants you to direct your energy and power into _____ service.
12. Self-control involves establishing and strengthening the _____ of your own inner guidance system.
13. Self-control is _____ and liberating. It puts you in control of your own life.
14. Self-control keeps you from being driven by your passions and causes you to be motivated by your _____ goals.

I. Choose Your Environment

15. When you feel the pressure mounting from a situation consider _____ your environment.
16. Knowing the _____ of your environment can be critical to maintaining self-control.
17. If you cannot control yourself, maybe you should consider making yourself _____ to someone who can help you grow in that area.
18. When you lose your temper and composure, you lose _____ and credibility with others.
19. It only takes a few minutes of out-of-control behavior to _____ incredible destruction and damage.
20. Often a mismanaged life is the result of mismanaged _____.
21. Be gracious in your _____ and try to bring out the best in others with your words.

22. This world should be a _____ place because you were here!
23. _____ are filled with people who cannot control themselves.

II. Practice Positive Faith

24. The do it if it kills you approach to self-control usually ends in _____.
25. Focus your attention on the _____ rather than on the problem.
26. You can't be _____ and bad at the same time!
27. What you _____ about people does affect how you act around them.
28. How you handle your _____ life is crucial to building character.
29. Your thought life is the _____ of your actions and character.
30. Your _____ is always occupied with something.

III. Always be Honest with Yourself

31. When we try to satisfy needs the _____ way, we usually wind up in out-of-control action that can be very destructive.
32. Whatever you do, don't turn to _____ or sinful ways.

Conclusion

33. Willpower and _____ go hand in hand.
34. God has promised to supply whatever we need to be _____ overcomers.

Don't think in terms of hard or easy, dull or exciting, dreary or interesting. Think in terms of achieving God's highest glory and your greatest benefit.

Add to your faith, virtue and to virtue, knowledge, and to knowledge, self-control!

Answers:

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|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. temperance | 13. positive | 25. solution |
| 2. master | 14. inner | 26. good |
| 3. self-discipline | 15. changing | 27. think |
| 4. society | 16. dynamics | 28. thought |
| 5. taskmaster | 17. accountable | 29. seedbed |
| 6. provide | 18. respect | 30. mind |
| 7. fruit | 19. inflict | 31. wrong |
| 8. increased | 20. time | 32. illegitimate |
| 9. rigorous | 21. speech | 33. motivation |
| 10. pressures | 22. better | 34. successful |
| 11. practical | 23. Prisons | |
| 12. authority | 24. failure | |

QUESTIONS FOR MEDITATION

1. Have you ever been out of control? How did that turn out?
2. What situations typically cause you to lose your cool? How can you handle these situations with more self-control?
3. Have you ever tried to gain self-control in a situation by speaking positive words about those around you? If so, how did it work? If not, how can you apply this in the future?