



Discussion and Devotional Guide Spinning Out Of Control - Week 1

This resource can be used to guide your personal anchoring time throughout the week, a small group discussion, or even a one-on-one conversation.

READ

Begin by reading Acts 17:16–34.

- As you read, note how Paul contrasts who God is versus what the idols are.
- Reflect on moments when your life has seemed to be spinning out of control. What was the context? How did you respond?
- What questions do you have after reading these verses?

REFLECT

WHAT IS CONTROL? Reread Acts 17:16–23. What is control? Where does it come from? Sometimes we try to put our selves in control and at other times we seek out sources of control externally in the world around us.

- Why do you think the Athenians sought out idols for control?
- Although physical idolatry might not be common in America today, in what other ways do we create idols as we seek out control?
- When we place our faith and hope in these other things to find control, how does that ultimately leave you feeling?

WHO IS IN CONTROL? Reread Acts 17:16–24–34. Control is more than just being able to make an order. Control is creating, ruling, sustaining, retaining, and disclosing. These are activities and attributes that only God can completely embody and fulfill.

- There are five attributes of control: creating, ruling, sustaining, retaining, and disclosing.
 - How does God fulfill all of these five attributes of control?
 - Are there times when you struggle to release one of the attributes of control? Which ones do you tend to try to do yourself?
- How does acknowledging that God is in control change how we live and think?

PRAY

Begin your time of prayer by reading John 14:27. Read it slowly. Now, use these verses to guide your prayer. To get you started...

FOCUS on the peace that comes through being close to Christ.

THANK Jesus for being the giver and sustainer of live and peace.

CONFESS where you have sought control rather than leaning into God.

ASK God to fill you with His peace, even when things feel like they are spinning out of control.

***Keep going this week by reading these scriptures:**

Proverbs 3:5–6

Romans 15:13

Hebrews 13:8

Psalms 13:5

