



Those Manipulative People

Sunday, May 10, 2015

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Stepping Stones Community Church

Examples of manipulation:

- **Two women manipulated Herod** (Mark 6:21-28)
- **Jacob manipulated Esau** (Genesis 25:29-34)
- **Delilah manipulated Samson** (Judges 16:15-19)

Then she said to him, "How can you say, 'I love you'? You won't even share your secret with me. This is the third time you have made me look foolish. And you still haven't told me the secret of why you are so strong." She continued to pester him day after day. She nagged him until he was sick and tired of it.

Judges 16:15-16 NIRV

Common tactics of manipulators

- _____
- _____
- _____

Breaking the power of manipulation

1. God, help me recognize when _____

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples what would happen to him. He told them he must go to Jerusalem. There he must suffer many things from the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law. He must be killed and on the third day rise to life again. Peter took Jesus to one side and began to scold him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This will never happen to you!" **Matt. 16:21-22** NIRV

2. God, empower me to _____

Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are standing in my way. You do not have in mind the things God cares about. Instead, you only have in mind the things humans care about."

Matthew 16:23 NIRV

3. God, help me see my own _____

You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you! Trust in the LORD always, for the LORD GOD is the eternal Rock.

Isaiah 26:3-4 NLT

Next Steps:

- Reach out to someone today before I leave
- Commit to pray the 3 prayers, especially #__
- I commit to following God's will in my life by putting my trust in him and obeying his word
- _____