

# altar e80

## My Need for Control

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### 1. Our control issues

- Usually in select areas, not everything
- We genuinely believe that we know best
- Our world is better with God in control

<sup>1</sup> Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had not been able to bear children for him. But she had an Egyptian servant named Hagar. <sup>2</sup> So Sarai said to Abram, "The LORD has prevented me from having children. Go and sleep with my servant. Perhaps I can have children through her." And Abram agreed with Sarai's proposal. <sup>3</sup> So Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian servant and gave her to Abram as a wife. (This happened ten years after Abram had settled in the land of Canaan.) <sup>4</sup> So Abram had sexual relations with Hagar, and she became pregnant. But when Hagar knew she was pregnant, she began to treat her mistress, Sarai, with contempt. <sup>5</sup> Then Sarai said to Abram, "This is all your fault! I put my servant into your arms, but now that she's pregnant she treats me with contempt. The LORD will show who's wrong—you or me!" <sup>6</sup> Abram replied, "Look, she is your servant, so deal with her as you see fit." Then Sarai treated Hagar so harshly that she finally ran away.

Genesis 16:1-6 NLT

### 2. Sacrificing my control to God

- Recognize that there is a lot I don't control
- God is smarter and wiser than I am
- Ask these questions:
  1. Is it mine to control?
  2. Is it worthy of my concern?
  3. Is it for God to control?

<sup>13</sup> Look here, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit." <sup>14</sup> How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it's here a little while, then it's gone.

James 4:13-14 NLT

### 3. What am I trying to control?

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#### Next Steps:

- Stop controlling \_\_\_\_\_ for one week. (my sacrifice to God)
- Commit to stop trying to control the people in my life: \_\_\_\_\_
- Commit to let go of control of \_\_\_\_\_ and trust it in God's hands (something I value dearly)
- Commit to attend the rest of this series (or watch on our Youtube channel)
- \_\_\_\_\_