



## Controlling People

### Introduction

The negative neighbor. The critical co-worker. The manipulative family member. You haven't seen these people in a year and now you're working next to them and seeing them at thanksgiving. We all have difficult people in our lives. Let's learn how we can live with—and show love to people that are hard to love.

### Pray

Don't forget that if anything significant happens, it's because God moved. Start by asking God to bless this time.

### Practice Truth

1. Would you say you are more of a controller or people pleaser?
2. Why do you think some people are so controlling? What drives this kind of living? Why do people allow themselves to be controlled?
3. Read Matthew 16:21-24 together. Discuss this story's lesson's on control, trust, and following Jesus.
4. Dirk talked about fighting people-pleasing by knowing what you are called to do. How can you apply this?
5. What areas of your life do you try to have the most control over? What would you like to do differently?

### Leader's Tip

View the people in your group as friends and family – not just group members.

### Do Life Together

Throughout this series we're discussing the problems we have with people in our lives. Choose a relationship in your life that causes worry and anxiety and pray daily for resolution.