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Section: Doctrine of God

**DISCUSSION GUIDE**

**Q18. Does God control and have authority over all things?**

Yes. He rules in and over all things. He is in control of all things. God does all that He wills with creation.

1. Have you been taught in the past or tempted to think of God being “hands off” instead of actively carrying out all things based on His will as we saw in Scripture today? Or perhaps you’ve subscribed to a false belief like karma or occasional divine intervention? Discuss your previous way of thinking and how this has changed and/or needs to change.
2. God is the final reference point for what counts as *good--*not fallible man. *Good* is *good*, and *evil* is *evil*, because God determines it as such, not because it conforms to our conception of how things ought to be. Are you humbled by this truth or tempted to rise up against God’s revelations in Scripture and call Him into question? Discuss ways to grow in trusting God’s perfect wisdom and will.
3. Read Isaiah 46:9-10 together. In the lesson we heard, “In these kinds of passages we see that God has preordained all that has and will come about. All that God has decreed before time began will happen, and only such things will happen.” Do you see this in Isaiah 46:9-10? Discuss this reality.
4. God didn’t reveal these things to us so that we would find reason to disobey Him. He never excuses inaction where Scripture has called us to action. How are you finding comfort and motivation in knowing God sovereignly works for His glory through your obedience to Him?
5. If God is not sovereign over all things, He cannot do anything about our prayers. How does understanding God’s sovereignty help you find comfort in knowing God has the ability and will bring about the things we ask that are in alignment with His will?
6. God will undoubtedly save His chosen ones. What are ways in which you can share the gospel with more joy and boldness? How does it affect your boldness knowing that sharing the gospel brings glory to God and He will accomplish all He has decreed when the gospel is proclaimed?
7. After learning about God’s sovereignty, it’s common that people say how much more they see it all throughout the Bible. Has this been the case in your personal Bible reading time after a previous sermon or lesson about God’s absolute sovereignty? If so, share with the group how your life has been blessed by this.
8. We heard tonight, “God is not interested in meeting our fallen expectations or ideas of what He can and cannot do. He’s not trying to protect the false image that mankind has made up for Him.” How does this challenge you?
9. A.W. Pink said, “When we complain about the weather, we are, in reality, murmuring against God.” We have an inadvertent tendency to complain about things like the weather. How can we actively fight to shed these ungodly habits in honor of the sovereign God?
10. We’ve been talking a lot about Romans 11:36 in these lessons. What is the importance of understanding the depth and implications of it?
11. We keep hearing that God’s attributes are inseparably interconnected. How does the reality that each attribute is dependent on and works in perfect unity with the other attributes help you have an accurate view of God’s sovereignty?

*Final Application and Takeaways:*

1. How can I teach these things to family, friends, and coworkers?
2. As a group, talk about how you can point each other to who God is this week.

**Close in a time of prayer focused on exultation and praise and thankfulness for who God is.**