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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. Read Romans 12:2 which talks about the "renewal of your mind.”
* Are you excited about renewing your mind according to God’s word? Share how you’re seeing God’s call to conform our minds to truth.
* Discuss with your group what it looks like to have patience and humility when you come across Scripture or teaching on Scripture that is beyond your present understanding.
* Also, share testimony in your group about how God has used

faithful (biblically sound) believers to help you on your journey to understanding God and His word more fully and truly.

1. Many believe an unbiblical concept of libertarian “free will.” But today we saw that our will is not as free as that view claims because 1) our will is always subject to God's will, and 2) we are seriously affected by sin. How do these biblical clarities help you reject wrong ideas about our will?
2. We saw two other core truths today (see “Two Pillars of Truth from Scripture” in your handout). Understanding how these work together is not easy; however, holding to these truths honors what God has said about these things rather than what mankind has told us. Give some examples of how you can be faithful to these two truths.
3. God will undoubtedly save His chosen ones, and *while we must proclaim the gospel accurately*, salvation doesn’t depend on your ability to intellectually convince anyone about the good news of Jesus; instead, it depends on God causing new birth in a person.
* How does it affect your boldness knowing that proclaiming the gospel brings glory to God, and He will accomplish all He has decreed when the gospel is proclaimed?
* What are ways in which you can share the gospel with *more* joy and boldness?
1. Read together the Charles Spurgeon quote at the end of the handout. How does this challenge you, correct you, and encourage you?
2. God didn’t reveal these things to us so 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?

*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 our great, mighty God this week.

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