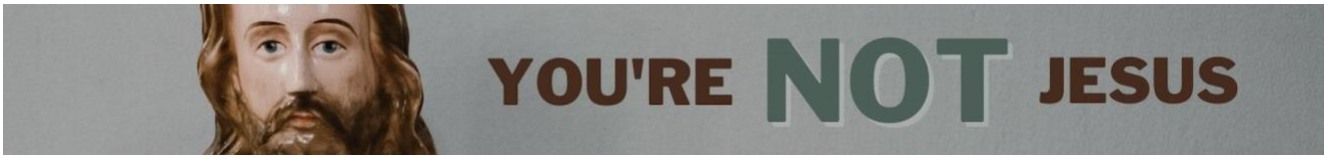

Sermon Based Questions

Part 2 – Control Issues

Control - who doesn't want it? We are constantly tempted to take control of everything and everyone around us, but we do it to our own detriment. There are so many things that are not ours to manage and we must learn to trust the one who faithfully holds it all together.

Conversation Starters:

- Who usually has the remote in your home?
- What do you have to be in control of?
- On a scale of 1 – 10 (10 being most) … how controlling are you? Do you think the people who know you best would agree with your answer?
- If you could be in control of ONE THING right now, what would it be?

Discussion Questions:

1. What things are **ours** to control?
2. What things are **not ours** to control?
3. Why do you think we are often tempted to focus on the things that are outside of our control while ignoring the things that are?

Read **Proverbs 3:5-6**

4. This passage is easy to read, hard to live. If you are able, share with the group one area of your life in which you are currently learning to trust Him.
5. Abram and Sarai's story (Gen 16:1-4) teaches us that fear and doubt will tempt us to take back the control we once surrendered to God. Our desire for control is often rooted in an underlying fear. Have you ever allowed fear to keep you from trusting God? What happened? What would you do differently?

Read **Isaiah 43:1-3**

6. God is with you and knows you by name. How might this truth help you to confidently trust God instead of reaching for the remote?
7. Jesus has been given all authority. He is in control … yet he is not controlling. He invites us to: obey him, love him, and follow him. What can we learn about controlling behaviour from the example Jesus set for us?

Read **Philippians 4:6-7**

8. Is there something you need to bring to God and let go of today?

Pray together