

The Church's Advantage

We seek control over our lives

**Because we believe control
ensures security**

Control doesn't bring freedom

It hinders it

Proverbs 16: 9 In their hearts humans plan their course,
but **the Lord establishes** their steps.

1 Peter 5: 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

2 Timothy 1: 7 God did not give us a spirit that makes us afraid but a spirit of **power and love and self-control.**

If everything seems under control, you're just not going fast enough.

Mario Andretti

When a church operates with too
much human control

It severely hinders its witness to
the world

Titus 3: 3 At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of **passions and pleasures.**

Titus 3: We lived in malice and envy, **being hated and hating** one another.

Titus 3: 4 But when the **kindness** and **love** of God our
Savior appeared,

Titus 3: 4 But when the **kindness** and **love** of God our
Savior appeared, **5 he saved** us,

God's loving kindness makes us
the **best version** of ourselves (no
fear)

Titus 3: 5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

Titus 3: 8 This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to **stress** these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to **devote themselves** to doing what is good. These things are excellent and **profitable** for everyone.

Titus 3: 9 But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law,

We deny God in our faithlessness
by **rejecting** Christ

We deny God in our faithfulness
by **controlling** Christ

Titus 3: 9 because these are **unprofitable** and useless.

John 3: 4 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through **the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit**, 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS OUR ADVANTAGE

John 3: 8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but **you cannot tell** where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

THE ISRAELITE MODEL

GOD DOESN'T LEAD ME
INTO THE WILDERNESS

THE ISRAELITE MODEL

GOD LED ME
INTO THE WILDERNESS

Matthew 4: 1 Then Jesus was **led by the Spirit** into the wilderness

THE JESUS MODEL

GOD LED ME
INTO THE WILDERNESS

THE JESUS MODEL

GOD LED ME

The Holy Spirit becomes our
advantage

when we stop caring about
where He leads

God will always bring glory
unto Himself

He wants you to help

James 1: 2 Consider it **pure joy**, my brothers and sisters,
whenever you face trials of many kinds...

Acts 5: 41 The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.

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