

SUMMER OF FRUIT—SELF-CONTROL Community Group Questions

Matthew 4:1-11, Deuteronomy 6-8

1—How have you seen the Lord working in your life this past week? What is He teaching you in your current season?

2— Self-control is *the Spirit-enabled mastery of desires, impulses, and habits so that they serve rather than rule the believer*. What comes to mind when you read/hear this definition? What does it mean that self-control is a fruit of the Spirit and not self?

3—Read **Matthew 4:1-11**. Jesus is tempted three times and each temptation correlates to these areas – Appetite, Approval, Ambition. Which of these areas do you struggle most with self-control in? What is the temptation for you in that area?

4—Which of Sunday’s points best resonates with you?

APPETITE

- Self-control doesn’t deny the appetite exists; it refuses to let it give orders
- God uses the appetite to teach
- The only thing more dangerous than being hungry is being full

APPROVAL

- Self-control means refusing to leverage your identity for a show
- The unapproved heart demands God prove His love

AMBITION

- Self-control means trusting God’s timing enough to refuse a shortcut
- Uncontrolled ambition leads to belief in the god of yourself

5—Which of these ways to come alongside the Holy Spirit in growing self-control in your life most resonates with you?

- Saturate your heart with God’s word
- Fill your house
- Practice choosing God’s will over your own
- Let God fill what your resistance emptied

6—What are you hearing from the Lord in these verses? How can you apply these verses to your life?