



Playing God

It's one thing to trust God when you've lost control; it's another to resist acting like God once you've gained it.

Discussion Questions:

1. Can you think of someone you know who responded in an unexpected way that resulted in a good unexpected outcome? If so, what made their response different or surprising?
2. In your own words, what does it look like to “play God” when life is going well?
3. How do prosperity and comfort test our dependence on God differently than hardship does?
4. Read **Genesis 50:18–20** aloud, where Joseph’s brothers ask for his mercy.

His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. “We are your slaves,” they said.

*But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. **Am I in the place of God?** You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.*

Think about those words: “Am I in the place of God?” What do they reveal about the difference between trusting God and trying to control our own?

5. Where are you reacting as expected rather than responding in a way that opens the door for an unexpected outcome?
6. Read **John 16:33** aloud.

“In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

What does this statement from Jesus bring to mind?

How would someone in your circumstances respond if they were confident God was with them?