

The Fruit of the Spirit is Self-Control

Philippians 2:1-11 (NLT)

The Meaning of Self Control

1. RESTRAINING our desires, actions and words in order to achieve something better.
2. This is close to the principle of DELAYED GRATIFICATION.
3. Self Control enables Christians to accomplish GOD'S GOALS AND PLANS.

The Motive of Self Control

1. Self Control is motivated by the PROMISE OF GREATER SATISFACTION.
2. Self Control is de-motivated by the desire for INSTANT GRATIFICATION.
3. Self Control needs VISION before it can work. (Proverbs 29:18a (KJV) "Where there is no vision, the people perish..." (NLT) "When people do not accept divine guidance, they run wild.")

The Manner of Self Control

1. Self Control is an ATTITUDE. (v.5 "You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.")
2. Self Control means you cannot CLING TO YOUR RIGHTS. (v.6, 7a "...He did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges.")
3. Self Control means becoming a SLAVE. (v.7b "...he took the humble position of a slave...")
4. Self Control means being HUMBLY OBEDIENT. (v.8 "...he humbled himself in obedience to God...")
5. Self Control PAYS OFF at the right time. (vv.9-11 "...God elevated him to the place of highest honor...")

Remember...

1. Self Control is only possible with SPIRIT CONTROL.
2. What evidence of Spiritual Fruit is OBVIOUS in your life?

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