

God Wants to Break Us of Self-Control

Although we have been given autonomy as humans, and set as overseers of Earth, the Creator's ultimate goal is to strip us of self-control. Yes, self-control. In the Kingdom, we are not supposed to be in control of ourselves. Holy Spirit has that job, which he does in conjunction with our spirit, not our mind and soul. This is the upside-down Kingdom you've probably heard about.

Christians are taught to have self-control – I know, I grew up in the church system with that mantra constantly thrust on me. This isn't the way the Kingdom works. Heaven wants us to surrender everything to the King, including control of our lives. To make this blatantly clear, our journey through the processes of maturing as sons is always filled with difficulty. This difficulty, this pressure, is designed to bring us to the end of ourselves so that we surrender to Father and let him be in charge of our person.

This difficult road can be described as God 'breaking' us, just like a horse needs to be broken-in so the master can ride it. Our natural nature rejects and rebels against this 'breaking' just like an unbroken horse does. However, when we voluntarily surrender to Father's will in every area of our lives and we live like that without rebellion, life changes and we can start living the Kingdom life.

Frank Viola writes about 'breaking' like this:

“When it comes to His children, the Father has but one goal. To conform us into the image of His Son, Jesus. The reality, however, is that all of us have parts of our personality and make-up that are very unlike Christ. And we are often blinded to these parts of our personalities and make-ups. Completely blinded. For years even. It doesn't matter if we've been told countless times that there is a part of us that is not like Jesus. The blindness is so thick that we can "hear" a rebuke on one level, but completely turn a deaf ear on all the levels that really count.

Then one day God takes us by storm and removes the blinders. And you see like you've never seen before. Before your eyes, He exposes a side of your personality that has successfully escaped the penetrating reach of God Himself. The Lord pulls back the curtain and shows you, with dramatic clarity, that ugly thing that you've been blind to...This revelation crushes you. The hurt to your own heart is acute...

*Yet it doesn't end there. God turns up the temperature to try you. He wants to gain your entire soul now. He is breaking you even more through unspeakably painful circumstances and intense pressure. There is only one thing to do during such times: *SURRENDER*. Don't complain about it. Don't fight it. Don't try to maneuver yourself out of it. Don't dwell on worst-case scenarios. And don't fear. Just surrender. Fully and completely to God. And let Him do His deeper work in your life.”¹*

'Breaking' is the most important process you'll go through. However, until you want to be broken, nothing can happen. Until you are 'broken-in' you are not a genuine son, you are actually illegitimate² sons ("bastards" according to the King James Version).

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1 – Distributed e-newsletter email (4 July 2019)

2 – Hebrews 12:8