

Definitions of Words in the Bible



Best understood when seen in action

For example: Love (1 Cor. 13:4–8)

Self Control



Galatians 5:23

2 Peter 1:6

Self control...



- Doesn't let any desire get in the way of a desire for truth.
 - “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their OWN DESIRES, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers and turn their ears away from the truth”
(2 Tim. 4:3–4).

Self control...



- Holds the tongue when we're tempted to unmercifully "chew someone out," to "put them in their place" once and for all.
 - "Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls" (Prov. 25:28).
 - "Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice" (Eph. 4:31).

Self control...



- Holds the tongue when we we're just about ready to spread a juicy piece of gossip that will make us the "life of the party."
 - "The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, and they go down into the inmost body" (Proverbs 18:8).
 - "They learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house, and not only idle but also gossips and busybodies, saying things which they ought not" (1 Tim. 5:13).

Self control...



- Holds the tongue when the time *seems* right to betray a confidence that must not be betrayed under any circumstances.
 - “A talebearer reveals secrets, but he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter” (Prov. 11:13).
 - “Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit” (Prov. 18:21).

Self control...



- Keeps us cool when things get hot, when someone says or does something to provoke us to anger.
 - “A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger” (Prov. 15:1).
 - “He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city” (Prov. 16:32).
 - “Who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten” (1 Peter 2:23).

Self control...



- Keeps the clinched fists in our pockets, even when the agitator is only half our size.
 - “not violent”, or, “not a striker” (1 Timothy 3:3).
 - “A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calls for blows” (Proverbs 18:6).
 - “What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you?” (James 4:1).

Self control...



- Puts away sinful desires before they can take root, before they can conceive.
 - “But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin...” (James 1:14–15).

Self control...



- Says NO to sexual relations OUTSIDE of marriage.
 - “For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor” (1 Thess. 4:3–4).
 - “If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it” (Gen. 4:7).

Self control...



- Doesn't assume rumors about people to be true.
 - David to Saul: "Why do you listen to the words of men who say, 'Indeed David seeks your harm'" (1 Sam. 24:9).
 - "Love...believes all things" (1 Cor. 13:7).
 - "It [love] takes the kindest views of man's actions and circumstances. It sees things in their brightest, not their darkest colors; and, as far as it consistently can, puts the best construction on conduct" (J. W. McGarvey).

Self control...



- Rejoices, even in the worst of times.
 - “as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing” (2 Cor. 6:10).
 - “Though the fig tree may not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines; though the labor of the olive may fail, and the fields yield no food; though the flock may be cut off from the fold, and there be no herd in the stalls—YET I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation” (Habakkuk 3:17–18).

Self control...



- Doesn't continually test its strength or limits—doesn't become overconfident (1 Cor. 7:5).
 - “FLEE sexual immorality” (1 Cor. 6:18); “FLEE from idolatry” (1 Cor. 10:14); “FLEE these things” (1 Tim. 6:11); “FLEE also youthful lusts” (2 Tim. 2:22).
 - “A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself...” (Prov. 22:3).
 - “If your hand or foot...or eye causes you to sin...” (Matt. 18:8–9).