

# What's Next

## Something More than Control

The early Church was filled with men and women who lived in uncertainty. The current Church is filled with men and women who live in uncertainty. The key difference between them and us is that they had something more sure than certainty and something more powerful than control...they were *convinced*.

## Discussion Questions

1. What is one thing that you are looking forward to? This could be within the next month or in the upcoming year? Tell the group a little bit about it.
2. Would people describe you as a “control person”? Would you describe yourself that way? In what ways does this tendency sometimes manifest itself? (I’m sure that there are times when pursuing “control” works in your favor, so feel free to discuss that as well.)
3. How could the early Christians live with such peace in the midst of such uncertainty? What would *you* need to be true in your life so that you would be able to face an uncertain future with joy? (Please be specific: what’s one thing you are concerned/anxious about... what would help you move forward in peace and joy?)
4. Jesus showed the Apostles the wounds in His hands and side and declared, “As the Father sent me, so I send you”. Does being sent like Christ into a hostile world frighten you? If so, what part of that specifically alarms you? If not, what about this consoles you?
5. Pope Benedict XVI said that the Holy Spirit guides the selection of the Pope by providing just enough guidance so that the person elected won’t mess everything up. You have been brought to this place in your life...having received the Holy Spirit, does this working of the Holy Spirit comfort you (or not)? Please discuss.

## God in Real Life

- I. This week, make a practice of being attentive to what uncertainty and which situations disturb you...and calling to mind the fact that Christ has conquered decisively, smile in the face of the future.

## To The Heart

- A. Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18