

Control (Somehow You Want Me) Mike Donehey/Jason Ingram/Matt Bronleewe

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If you want to watch the video: <https://youtu.be/LzV-zVufYTE>

Here I am, all my intentions, all my obsessions, I want to lay them all down.
In Your hands only Your love is vital. Though I'm not entitled still You call me Your child.

Refrain: God You don't need me but somehow You want me.

Oh, how You love me, somehow that frees me
to take my hands off of my life and the way it should go.

God You don't need me but somehow You want me.

Oh, how You love me somehow that frees me
to open my hands up and give You control. I give You control

I've had plans shattered and broken, things I have hoped in, fall through my hands.
You have plans, to redeem and restore me. You're behind and before me, oh, help me believe.

Refrain:

Oh, You want me. Somehow You want me, the King of Heaven wants me.

So this world has lost its grip on me.

Oh, You want me, somehow You want me, The King of Heaven wants me.

So this world has lost its grip on me.

Refrain:

Oh, give You control.

Oh, I want to give You control.

I give You control.

You want me. Somehow You want me.

The King of Heaven wants me.

So this world has lost its grip on me...

Matthew 6:32-34 *"If God gives such attention to the appearance of wildflowers—most of which are never even seen—don't you think He'll attend to you, take pride in you, do His best for you? What I'm trying to do here is to get you to relax, to not be so preoccupied with getting, so you can respond to God's giving. People who don't know God and the way He works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how He works. Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don't worry about missing out. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met. Give your entire attention to what God is doing right now, and don't get worked up about what may or may not happen tomorrow. God will help you deal with whatever hard things come up when the time comes."*
The Message¹

"Here I am, all my intentions, all my obsessions, I want to lay them all down.

In Your hands only Your love is vital. Though I'm not entitled still You call me Your child."

Do you have "obsessions"? How do you feel about them when you read these verses? Have you ever wanted to "lay them all down"? Where you able to? How did that feel? Where you

able to actually release them, or did you pick them back up again. Why do you think that happened? How does it feel to know that no matter what, you are God's child?

Mike Donehey "What if I told you your loveliness to God doesn't rise and fall with your usefulness? Jesus descends to earth, and more than that, not only does he climb down the ladder to earth, He chases us all the way down into hell. He doesn't do that because He needs you to be productive. He does that because He wants you, just you. Nothing you're gonna do for Him, nothing you're gonna achieve for Him - just you."

Acts 7:15 "Nor is He served by humans, [as if] being-in-need of something, He Himself giving life and breath and all things to all people." Disciples' Literal New Testament²

"God You don't need me but somehow You want me."

How does it feel to consider that God wants you - not what you can do or produce or achieve - just simply you? Have you ever felt that you had to earn God's love? What caused you to feel that way? Is it difficult to let go of that feeling? If you've been able to let go of it, how does that feel? If someone asked you for help to do the same, what would say?

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 "Christ's love has moved me to such extremes. His love has the first and last word in everything we do. Our firm decision is to work from this focused center: One man died for everyone. That puts everyone in the same boat. He included everyone in his death so that everyone could also be included in his life, a resurrection life, a far better life than people ever lived on their own." The Message¹

"I've had plans shattered and broken, things I have hoped in, fall through my hands. You have plans, to redeem and restore me. You're behind and before me, oh, help me believe."

Thinking of Christ's life, do you think He "had plans shattered and broken"? How does that make you feel about Christ's understanding of your life? Do you want to be included in the resurrection life, in Jesus' plans for redemption? Why?

"God You don't need me but somehow You love me, somehow that frees me to take my hands off of my life and the way it should go."

Proverbs 16:1 "We can make our plans, but the final outcome is in God's hands." The Living Bible³

Do you feel that you need to control your life "and the way it should go"? Why? How does the verse from Proverbs make you feel? Can God's love help free you from the struggle with control? How might that feel?

Can you pray "Oh, how You love me somehow that frees me to open my hands up and give You control"? Try opening your hands and offering God your life as you pray...

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