

Sermon Discussion Guide

Twelve – Week 1
Pursue the Father
October 17, 2021



Big Idea

Regardless of the situation, we pursue the Father daily through a relationship with his son Jesus and in turn receive the fruit of the Spirit.

Icebreaker

Where is your favorite spot for enjoying the fall foliage?

Discussion Questions

1. Read **Psalm 63**. David wrote this psalm while under the incredible pressure of his own son trying to kill him. What does this say of David's relationship with God? Are you able to pray this kind of prayer during difficult times?
2. Review **Psalm 63:1**, which shows us what it looks like to pursue the Father. How does this desire for God compare to infatuation? How comfortable are you with the idea of intimacy with God?
3. Review **Psalm 63:5-7**, which shows us what happens when you pursue the Father. What have you personally experienced when pursuing the Father? How does it compare to when you're not pursuing?
4. Read **Galatians 5:22-23**. When we pursue the Father, we experience the fruit of the Spirit. The first three are Godward, the next three are manward, and the final three are selfward. How do these categories help your understanding of the fruit? Which of these categories comes more naturally to you?
5. Review **John 15:1, 5-8**, which tells us how to pursue the Father. Why is Jesus a crucial part of having a relationship with the Father? Do you feel like you bear fruit?

Concluding Question

Pursuing the Father is something that should happen on a daily basis. What are some spiritual habits and practices that you participate in regularly? How can you stay consistent with them? What are some other potential habits you should develop?

Application

1. What do you think the Holy Spirit may be saying to you through this sermon and our discussion?
2. What is something God wants you to do now?
3. Is there a way we can help each other apply what God is showing us?

Prayer

Possible prayer topics for this week:

- A deeper relationship with the Father
- Developing daily spiritual habits
- Bearing good fruit
- Church staff during the transition to our new mission, values, vision, and name