

# Pursuit 2022 Part 2—The Pursuit of Jesus Over Everything Else Pastor Lee Brooks 1.9.2022

#### **USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE**

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

# The Lord's Prayer—

- 1. Thy Kingdom come
- 2. Thy Will be done on earth...
- 3. Give us this day our daily bread
- 4. And forgive us our trespasses
- 5. AS we forgive those who trespass against us
- 6. Lead us not into temptation
- 7. Deliver us from evil

### [Matthew 7:7-8, NKJV]

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened."

**Ask**: Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. (1 John 5:14-15, NKJV)

**Seek** = **zeteo** (Greek) "to worship" (Hebrew) **The seeking of God in prayer** 

You can't pray and not worship; you can't worship and not pray.

Seek after God, not after the answer to that request.

#### [Matthew 6:33, NKJV]

But **seek first** the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Jesus wants to be found by us. He wants to commune with us. He wants to know us and be known by us.

# [Romans 14:17-18, NKJV]

for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but **righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.** For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men.

Learning the essence of God's character happens as we move in prayer from *asking* to *seeking*.

### **Keeping Jesus Over Everything—**

- **1. Pray for the Church.** (Ephesians 6:18, NLT)
- 2. Be kind, forgive others, and let peace rule in your heart. (Colossians 3:12-15, NLT)

- **3. Keep growing in gratitude.** (Psalm 7:17, ESV)
- **4. Remember the kingdom of God is within YOU.** (Romans 14:17-18)
- **5. Be obedient.** (John 14:15)

#### Knock

We are placed at the door of heaven, placed on Jesus' heart. When you open your eyes in His presence, He will say "Well done, good and faithful servant."

#### FOR MONDAY—

- **1.** Pray and ask God to examine your heart as you pursue Him. Commit to seeking Him above seeking your answer to prayers.
- **2.** Pick up any prayers you've laid down or walked away from after extensive periods of contending.
- **3.** Believe God for miraculous healing and release of the supernatural gifts in this season.

# TALK IT THROUGH

- **1.** What prayers are you longing for God to answer this year?
- 2. Scripture says to "Ask and keep asking, and it will be given to you." What is something you haven't asked God for, and what's stopping you? (Matthew 7:7-8)
- **3.** Have you received everything you have asked for in prayer? What does this mean for the practical application of your faith?
- **4.** How do you know if you are praying the will of God? What filters can we use? (Consider 1 John 5:14-15)
- **5.** If we're encouraged to "seek first the Kingdom of God," what should we prioritize? (Matthew 6:33) Why do we seek God first and not just the answer to our prayer? How do we draw near and stay near to Jesus?

- **6.** What is intercession, and who is called to it? Is there someone or something you feel led to intercede for, and what would that look like?
- **7.** When we move from the "asking" to the "seeking," how do we get to know more of God's character? How does seeking God keep Him at the forefront?
- **8.** In what ways can we praying for the Church universal and for The Father's House locally?
- **9.** Why do we still need Jesus after our prayer is answered? How can we grow in the asking, seeking, and knocking?
- **10.** How does gratitude to God make a way for more blessing?