



PURSUIT

PURSUIT Part 3
Beauty of Your Holiness
Pastor Rich Harris
March 17-18, 2018

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

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.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so use the discussion questions as you see fit, but emphasize the relationships.

VERSE

Come and rest here, Almighty God
Come and rest here, Almighty God
Reveal the weight of Your great name

1. Invitation (asking God to come closer)

Acts 19:11-12 (NLT)

God gave Paul the power to perform unusual miracles. ¹² When handkerchiefs or aprons that had merely touched his skin were placed on sick people, they were healed of their diseases, and evil spirits were expelled.

2. Revelation (God comes closer and we respond)

Psalms 96:4-6, 8-9 (NKJV)

Great is the Lord! He is most worthy of praise!

He is to be feared above all gods.

⁵The gods of other nations are mere idols,

but the Lord made the heavens!

⁶Honor and majesty surround him;

strength and beauty fill his sanctuary.

⁸Give to the Lord the glory he deserves!

Bring your offering and come into his courts.

⁹Worship the Lord in all his holy splendor.

Let all the earth tremble before him.

Only God Moments:

Nia - “After I encountered His presence, God ignited a real fire within me. Ever since, God has been healing me and breaking off my chains, because I am His daughter and He has a purpose for my life.”

Faith - “He revealed Himself to me and I encountered His love and comfort. He took away my brokenness, depression, and insecurity, and He gave me joy and confidence because my identity is rooted in Him.”

Nick - “...I encountered God and I was set free from my lifestyle of bondage and darkness. With God by my side, I am committed to undoing the bondage in my family tree and breaking generational curses, and I am called to help other people do the same.”

CHORUS

Be glorified with every breath

We will rise and worship You

In the beauty of Your holiness

You alone are holy

Revelation 2:2-3 (ESV, NLT)

2 “I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. 3 You have patiently suffered for me without quitting.

Revelation 2:4 (ESV)

But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.

Revelation 2:5 (ESV)

Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.

3. Desperation (to stay in the passionate fire of your First Love)

BRIDGE

Fill Your Church with the Flame of Her First Love again

Fill Your Church with the beauty of Your holiness

TALK IT THROUGH

1. What is something you would describe as *beautiful*? Why, what is it about this thing that makes it stand out to you?
2. Remember when you first fell in love with Jesus. What was that like?
3. One of the repeated sayings in this series has been, “You have to live in the verse before you can go to the bridge.” The verse of *Beauty of Your Holiness* is an invitation:
Come and rest here, Almighty God
Come and rest here, Almighty God
Reveal the weight of Your great name

How do we invite God's holiness into our lives? What patterns or practices have you instilled into your life to invite God's presence?

4. What are some ways God has displayed, or revealed, His beauty in your life? Share in your group some “Only God” moments.
5. The Ephesians had abandoned their first love - their simple, yet passionate, love for Jesus. They were busy and perhaps successful at the “doing” of Christianity but had

abandoned simple love. How do we protect ourselves from the same? Are we equally as vulnerable as the Church at Ephesus?

6. Have someone read 1 Corinthians 13:1-3. Discuss the preeminence of love, not only in our interactions with one another, but as we consider our personal relationship with Jesus. Is the preeminent, often the most difficult? If so, why?
7. What is your “next step” in applying the truths in this message?