

Relentless Pursuit – Week 2

ADULT GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GROUP PREP

In preparation for group, <u>watch Emmanuel's weekend service message</u>, then answer the following discussion questions.

SOCIAL TIME (15-30 minutes)

Have an ice-breaker ready, eat a snack together, and/or go around the circle asking your group members to share any news since your last meeting. Be intentional in helping your group members feel connected during this time and make it fun.

Ice-Breaker suggestion: What brand of peanut butter do you buy? Why?

CHECK-IN TIME (15-30 minutes)

Talk about what you did last week to complete your action step.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (45-60 minutes)

Emmanuel Church exists to see people Come to Christ and Grow in Christ. We often say we are on a *Relentless Pursuit* of the people in our life far from Christ. We love to invite our friends far from Christ to church. When the opportunity is presented, we love telling people how Jesus has saved us from our past and is remaking our future. This is the *Relentless Pursuit*, and it takes every single one of us to reach those who are far from Christ.

- 1. When you think of the abundant life, what would your abundant life look like?
- 2. An abundant life is one of **hope**, **joy**, **and peace**. When you reflect on your life and heart right now, which one feels the least attainable? Why?
- 3. C.S Lewis said, "Every Christian is to become a little Christ. The whole purpose of becoming a Christian is simply nothing else."

One of the first steps to growing into a "little Christ" is to examine ourselves. What part of you (thought, life, feelings, body, social life, etc.) do you know is not like Christ?

When you look at the character of Christ, which area do you need to grow?



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4. Walking with Christ requires total trust and surrender; we must acknowledge God in everything we do. Pastor Danny shared the image of two oxen yoked together, and how they can pull more weight together than they ever could alone.

Where are you trying to bear the weight and move things forward on your own, rather than relying on God?

5. We say we believe that God is in total control, but do your actions exemplify that belief to those you are relentlessly pursuing?

What one thing do you need to focus on this week to step further into the abundant life God intended for you?

ACTION STEP (10-15 minutes)

Choose one of the following or create your own. Consider finding an accountability partner within your group to walk alongside you this week.

- Journal: If you struggle to live in a state of hope, joy, or peace spend some time studying the Word of God on that topic and journal what you are learning.
- Scripture: Meditate on and/or memorize related verses: <u>Romans 13:14</u>, <u>John</u> <u>10:10</u>, <u>Psalm 103:19</u>.
- **Pursue Others:** Write down the name of 1 or 2 people that you will relentlessly pursue. Commit to praying for them to have hearts that are open to the Lord and commit to speak up and invite them.
- **Get Uncomfortable:** Commit to engaging in a conversation with a stranger and invite them to church this week.
- **Get Accountable:** Find a friend, share the changes you are going to make, and allow them space to hold you accountable to those changes.
- **Daily time with God**: Determine the type of routine you'd like to have that allows you to spend time learning about what pleases God. Here are some ways to do this:

• <u>Download the Emmanuel app</u> and read the One Year New Testament daily.

 If you recently placed your faith in Christ and texted SAVED to 65248, read the devotional provided in your starter kit.

• <u>The Bible App</u> has lots of reading plans on Hope, Joy, and Peace. Choose one to go through this week, either as a small group or on your own.

PRAYER (5-10 minutes)

Ask your group to share two things

- Prayer requests for themselves and the people in their lives.
- Ask also for any reason to praise. It is great to come to God in thanksgiving for all He has done.



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Keep note of the burdens in people's lives and notice when God moves in those areas specifically. We believe God will see prayers become praise and it is an opportunity to increase our faith when we are in the position to bring that to light.

GROUP SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

Partner with The Refuge to stock their pantry shelves with boxed food as we head into cooler months. For information on how to get involved visit their <u>therefugeinc.com/get-involved</u>. For any questions reach out to Breanne De Avila at <u>bdeavila@eclife.org</u>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Middle School Hangout | November 11 Impact Team Night | November 14 You can find more information on all of these events at <u>eclife.org</u>.