



Relentless Pursuit – Week 3

HIGH SCHOOL AND ADULT GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**GROUP PREP**

In preparation for group, [watch Emmanuel's weekend service message](#), then answer the following discussion questions.

SOCIAL TIME (15-20 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.

Ice-Breaker suggestion: Play 'Similarities & Differences'. This ice-breaker allows us to find out how similar and different we all are. Pass out a piece of paper and pen to each group member. Instruct them to draw three columns on their paper with the headings: name, similar, and different. Get your group to mingle until they have connected with each member to find something similar and different about each other. Then have everyone share what they learned with the group.

CHECK-IN TIME (15-20 minutes)

Talk about how your action steps from last week went.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (45-60 minutes)

Emmanuel Church exists to see people come to Christ and grow in Christ. We are on a relentless pursuit to reach our friends and family who are far from Christ or "lost." The good news is that Jesus spent extra time with lost people. He shared a parable about the Prodigal Son, who turned to the wild life, returned home, and received an embrace from his father.

1. Read [Luke 15:13](#) "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living." Share an example of when you searched for happiness and satisfaction "out there." What did you spend your time doing, or how did you spend your money?
2. The Prodigal Son grows desperate after squandering away his wealth and persuades a farmer to hire him. His rock bottom moment was that he eventually became so hungry that he considered eating the pig's food. Read [Luke 15:17-19](#).

Often when we mess up, it doesn't hit us until we've reached the bottom. Have you had a rock bottom moment before? If so, what were some of the consequences of the poor decisions you made?

3. The Prodigal Son remembers home, yet he does not feel worthy to return because of his bad decisions. He eventually returns home to his father, where his

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father eagerly awaits his arrival, just as God watches for us to return to Him. We are all sinners, and God embraces and loves us!

Share with the group a time you came back home to the Father and how that affected you.

4. Read [Luke 15:28-30](#). We often forget that there are two sons in this story. The oldest son is upset that his younger brother returns home. The oldest son thinks that real life is found in himself, his performance, or perfection. Both brothers are lost, one by trying to find real life "out there" and the other by trying to find real life in himself.

Which son are you today? What action step do you need to take to come back to the Father?

Jesus came to seek and save the lost. In this Relentless Pursuit series, what story was most impactful to you? The lost sheep, the lost coin, or the lost sons. Why?

What action step will you take to search out the lost this week?

ACTION STEP (10-15 minutes)

Choose one of the following or create your own.

- **INVITE:** Text "invite" to 65248 to use Emmanuel's invite tool. This tool will allow you to invite a friend to service and give them all of the information they need to know.
- **PRAY:** Put an index card or a post-it note with the name of your relentless pursuit somewhere you will see it regularly. Pray for them, and pray for those your group members are relentlessly pursuing.
- **RP Boards:** Take time to write the name of your relentless pursuit on the wall of your campus auditorium.
- **GRATITUDE:** Call, text, or send a note to the person who pursued you when you were lost.
- **ATTEND:** Commit to relentlessly pursuing those far from Christ to come to Christ.

PRAYER (5-10 minutes)

- Partner up with one person in your group.
- Share something that you want to apply in your life from this weekend's message.
- Make sure you have one another's phone numbers and text throughout the week for accountability.



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GROUP SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

To determine how your group can serve together in the surrounding community, email Breanne Schafer, Emmanuel's Associate Outreach Director, at bschafer@eclife.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 17th-23rd | Fall Break (No onsite groups or childcare at Banta campus)

October 21 | 1824

You can find more information on all of these events at eclife.org.