

**PURSUIT**

Philippians 3:7-14

**Taking it Home:**

1. Review the three pursuits for 2023. Can you commit yourself to making these three your top priorities for this year? What needs to practically happen for you to press on and make these your goals?

**Prayer Concerns:**

1. Personal pursuit: \_\_\_\_\_ **our** \_\_\_\_\_.

*“What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things.” [Philippians 3:8a]*

Will I commit to giving Jesus \_\_\_\_\_?

2. Communal pursuit: \_\_\_\_\_ **in our** \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Let us not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching” [Hebrews 10:25]*

Will I commit to regularly \_\_\_\_\_  
as we glorify God in our worship?

3. Missional pursuit: \_\_\_\_\_ **with** \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Now he uses us to spread the knowledge of Christ everywhere, like a sweet perfume. Our lives are a Christ-like fragrance rising up to God.”  
[2 Corinthians 2:14b NLT]*

Will I commit to entering into cultural conversations with  
\_\_\_\_\_?

## Personal Study/Growth Group Discussion Questions

### Getting Started:

1. Talk about a time when you pursued something you really wanted [a job, a goal, a romantic relationship, etc.]?

### Digging Deeper:

1. Read Philippians 3:7-14. By “knowing Christ,” Paul didn’t mean just knowing things *about* Jesus. He meant knowing God in a personal and intimate way. How are you pursuing a deep relationship with God in your life? In what ways are you giving Jesus your ‘first love’?
2. Read Lamentations 3:22-23. What do these verses tell us about God’s daily commitment to us? How should God’s daily renewal of His love and grace impact how we lead our lives each day?
3. What can keep us from pursuing God daily [insecurities, sinful behavior, etc.]? Read Hebrews 4:16. How has Jesus overruled our fears of entering God’s presence?

4. How do you define worship?

5. Marc shared the results of a survey in which 54 percent of responders said worshipping apart from a local congregation is as valid as worshipping with one. Do you agree or disagree with that opinion? Why or why not?

6. What are some cultural conversations you’ve been exposed to in this last year? Are you one to avoid these types of conversations, get worked up about them, or engage?

7. Dane Ortlund says, “Only as we drink down the kindness of the heart of Christ will we leave in our wake, everywhere we go, the aroma of heaven, and die one day having startled the world with glimpses of a divine kindness too great to be boxed in by what we deserve.” [Gentle and Lowly]  
Think about what aroma others might say you give off as you engage our culture. How might you better bring the aroma of heaven to the world?