

AUGUST 2019 Champions Discussion Guide

Care

- What curriculum did you choose for the Fall Small Groups Semester (Sep 1-Dec 6)?
- Share any testimonies or victories from your groups.
- Have you experienced any challenges?

Communicate

Celebrate // What are you personally celebrating?

Leadership Podcast // Text PODCAST to 25827 to get it sent to you each Monday morning.

Fall Semester // September 1st - December 6th

Fall Launch Weekends // August 24-25 & August 31-September 1

Coach

In our first two videos we talked about why we have groups at our church, why we encourage you to become a host. (If you haven't already watched these videos, please go back and watch before proceeding.) You can access the videos on the [Host Resources Tab](#) at ChurchoftheKing.com/smallgroups.

The next four Champion Team Discussion Guides will be based on each of these videos. Please plan on watching the video with your Champion team as the basis for your discussion time.

Today we'll talk about Pursuing People. In our last video, we talked about *inviting* people but it's much more than an invitation, it's *pursuit*.

We learned in the first two videos of this series that the 4 Ps are how we *carry out* the vision of our church, which really is the calling of every believer: **Reaching People, Building Lives**. Jesus Himself is our model. When we look at His model, we see two primary principles for how to Pursue People:

1. We must SEE people the way Jesus sees people
 - a. *Matthew 9:36 says, "When He [Jesus] saw the crowds, He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." Jesus didn't just see that people were present, He saw their state of being and responded with compassion, empathy, love and value. He was moved by people because He cared about them. In the same way, the Lord wants to help us grow in our ability to see people for who they are; to look at them and seek to understand what they are going through; to listen to them and seek to hear their hearts. Jesus Himself will help us see people like He does and birth a heart of compassion within us because it is the first step to reaching people.*

2. We must ACT the way Jesus acted toward people.

- a. *Luke 15:2-4 – “And the Pharisees and scribes complained saying, ‘This man [speaking of Jesus] welcomes sinners and eats with them.’ So he spoke this parable to them saying: ‘Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?’” When Jesus saw people, He responded with such openness that those who observed their relationship accused Him of being their friend! The “sinners” He welcomed and ate with responded to Him in such a way that reflected they felt His care. In the middle of their mess Jesus didn’t move AWAY but moved TOWARD people with compassion, care, and love. He carried hope and life to them. He responded to their condition with purposeful pursuit.*

Today, the Spirit of Jesus lives in us – we are carriers of this same hope and life! When we pursue people, we seek to SEE the lost and ACT or move toward them with compassion so that they can be introduced to our Savior and the source of all hope—Jesus.

Discussion Questions:

- What are some ways that you have used to pursue people? What was the outcome?
- How does God view lost people?
- What are the two ways that Jesus pursued people?
- When was the last time you pursued someone the way Jesus modeled for us?
- Describe a time you moved toward someone with compassion. What was the outcome?
- What is the most effective way to build your small group? Did you write the names of 2 people down you will personally invite?
- Have you completed the Growth Track? If not, what steps are remaining?

Action Steps:

1. Think through your weekly routine. Where do you go? Who do you run into or cross paths with regularly?
2. Write down the names of those people you routinely come across.
3. Interact with the people you listed in friendly and open ways.
4. Pray for the people on your list. Befriend them
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you what to say, or how to invite them ONE step closer to knowing Jesus. Ex:, “would you like to join me in our small group, what church service time works best for you, I will meet you there, how can I pray for you?”
6. Pray daily for those people and invite them to your small group!

The people that God has placed in your everyday life are exactly the right people to pursue. He loves them! Do you see the opportunities He has put before you? Ask Him to help you SEE and ACT like He does.

Prayer

Are there any personal needs or concerns that we can pray for as a team?
Allow time for prayer requests.