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Pursue

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“You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:13

Pursue

Who is the winner in a game of hide and seek? Have you ever thought about it before? If you're the seeker and you find everyone in hiding, fantastic, you win, right? Objective completed. But have you ever played the game with someone who hid so well they couldn't be found? You searched high and low, maybe even cheated a bit by inviting the help of the others you've found to seek out this last person in hiding. But after a long time and no one has any luck finding said person, have you given up, walked away from the game and hoped the individual in hiding got the message that the game was over, it wasn't fun anymore? Who wins in this scenario? It doesn't really feel like anyone does if the game has ended.

Are you searching for God in what feels like a game of hide and seek? Who's hiding? Who's seeking? And who is the winner?

In Jeremiah 29:13 God promises, “You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.” “I will be found by you,” he empathically repeats in verse 14 to ensure we've heard Him correctly.

God does not hide from us in such a way that He cannot be found. Instead, God pursues after us! He sent His son Jesus down to earth for one major purpose: "to seek and save the lost." His death and resurrection was the ultimate declaration, "I want you! I want to be in relationship with you!" But He doesn't stop there. He invites us to pursue Him, to seek Him, and if we do, with all our hearts, we will find exactly what we were looking for, and, I argue, so much more.

The problem isn't in searching for God. It's searching for Him with all my heart. Distractions, disorganized priorities, avoidance, pride, lack of desire--these things keep me from being “all in” at times. I may say I'm interested in pursuing a deeper walk with God, a personal relationship with Him, but often these things get in the way. How can I seek God with *all* of my heart?

My challenge to you this week is to read Psalm 51 and Ezekiel 36:26-27 and to make it your prayer. God wants to be found by you, and since He goes as far as promising that you will find Him, I know He will work to fulfill His promise - He will make Himself visible, noticeable to you in some way. May you be baptized by the Holy Spirit to be able to hear Him calling to you, to see Him actively working in your life, and to feel His presence draw near to you as you **make the Main Thing, the main thing this week.**

Upcoming Events:

- **Commitment Weekend** kicks off on **Friday night with Vespers at 7:30pm**, Pastor Dave Ferguson is our speaker.
- Following Vespers you'll have the chance to sign up to be involved in any number of ministries such as Sonrise, Missions, LifeGroups, ministries of the University Church

as well as other local churches and so much more! This **Ministry Exp** will take the place of Afterglow this week.

- We're continuing the weekend by celebrating Sabbath lunch together at **The Great Haystack, hosted by the Southern Union Youth & Camp Directors. Join us in Ile's Gymnasium** at 1:30pm for the feast!

-Anna Bennett