

THE RELENTLESS PURSUIT

AN ALL TO HIM SERMON SERIES

ICEBREAKER

If you could add a sixth sense, what would it be and why?

CONTEXT

We are in week 4 of our series on Matthew 28:18-20. Today we focus on how we do not walk this mission alone, but we are joined and empowered by the Triune God.

BLESS

Remember to leave space to discuss the second step of BLESS on page 2

PASSAGE

Matthew 28:18-20

DISCUSS

- How does the story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden illustrate the problem of sin affecting our relationship with God?
- In what ways have you experienced sin affecting your own relationship with God, and how can you seek restoration in His presence?
- What is significant about God's covenant with Abraham in reconnecting with humanity?
- How can you understand the importance of Jesus' role in fulfilling this covenant in your personal faith journey?
- How would you describe the importance of the torn curtain in your relationship with God, and how has this impacted your faith?

DISCUSS Continued

- How does the Holy Spirit enable believers to experience God's presence and live out their faith?
- In what ways have you experienced the Holy Spirit guiding and empowering you in your own faith journey, and how can you seek more of His presence in your life?
- What are some practical ways to seek God's presence continually?
- What specific steps can you take to deepen your relationship with God and cultivate a greater awareness of His presence in your daily life?

TAKE TIME TO PRAY

- Pray for an understanding and appreciation of God's imminence, that despite His omnipresence, He is close and near to us. Ask for the ability to see His presence in everyday life.
- Pray for a restored relationship with God, just as sin separated Adam and Eve from God's presence, sin in our lives can do the same. Ask for forgiveness and the desire to resist temptation.
- Pray for awareness and acceptance of the Holy Spirit's role in our lives. Ask for an increased sense of empowerment and encouragement in sharing the Gospel.
- Finally, pray for a commitment to seek God's presence through time spent in the Word and prayer. Ask for a hunger and thirst for His presence.

The B.L.E.S.S. Practices

Begin with Prayer → Listen → Eat → Serve → Story



As believers, we are all called to share the gospel! In Matthew 28:19-20 we are told to go into the world and make disciples, baptizing and teaching them. We hear Pastor James talk about sharing the gospel, but sometimes, it is difficult to know where to start. If you struggle with this, the BLESS practice will be very helpful! Each week, we will unpack a piece of the BLESS acronym.

This week, we are talking about EAT.

This tends to be everyone's favorite step!

In the book BLESS: 5 Everyday Ways to Love Your Neighbor and Change the World, Dave Ferguson says this about eat.

"Jesus liked to eat! Over and over, as in Matthew 9, we find Jesus with tax collectors and sinners... doing what? Eating! There is something about sharing a meal together that moves any relationship past acquaintance toward friendship—faster than just about anything else we can do."

Go around the group and ask how the B and L parts of BLESS are going so far.

Ask if some new insights or names have been given as their BLESSing assignment.

Discuss a time when you realized the power of eating with someone as a way to build a relationship.

Do you have any personal examples of how a meal changed your perspective or relationship with someone? Do you have any concerns or questions about this step?