

MID WEEK MESSAGE NOTES AND INTERACTIVE PDF

The Purpose of Pursuit

Jesus calls us to surrender every rival and press toward knowing Him, allowing fellowship with the Spirit to change our lives.

SERMON TITLE	MINISTER
The Purpose of Pursuit	Shane Schmidt
DATE	PRIMARY SCRIPTURE
Wednesday, March 18, 2026	Philippians 3:7-14 ; Colossians 1:9-14

TOPICS [Christ](#) | [Fellowship](#) | [Holy Spirit \(Indwelling\)](#) | [Surrender](#)

NOTES

Truth to carry into the week.

01 Answer God's pursuit with wholehearted surrender.

- The cross settles the question of God's love: Christ pursued people while they were still sinners. ([Romans 5:8](#))
- Paul counted former gains as loss so that Christ—not reputation, ambition, or self-righteousness—would become the center of his life. ([Philippians 3:7-9](#))

"Jesus don't want to be in your life. He wants to become your life."

STUDY [Romans 5:8](#); [Philippians 3:7-9](#)

02 Make knowing Christ the prize.

- The central aim of pursuit is not religious activity but knowing Jesus, the power of His resurrection, and fellowship with Him. ([Philippians 3:10-11](#))
- Eternal life is a living relationship with the Father and the Son, not merely information about them. ([John 17:3](#))

“That I may know Him.”

STUDY [Philippians 3:10-11](#); [John 17:3](#)

03 Release the past and press toward the upward call.

- Neither former failures nor former successes should become an anchor; believers reach forward to what God has placed ahead. ([Philippians 3:12-14](#))
- Spiritual pursuit is intentional—formed through commitment, repentance, perseverance, and obedience rather than accident. ([Philippians 3:15-16](#))

“We cannot do this on accident.”

STUDY [Philippians 3:12-16](#)

04 Let Christ’s inward work become visible.

- The revealed mystery of the gospel is Christ in believers, the hope and expectation of glory. ([Colossians 1:24-27](#))
- God changes what people cannot repair within themselves, then empowers them to express that new life through conduct, work, and witness. ([Galatians 2:20](#))

“God does the part that we can’t do on the inside and helps us to fulfill that work on the outside.”

STUDY [Colossians 1:24-27](#); [Galatians 2:20](#)

05 Pursue fellowship with Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

- The Spirit reveals the deep things of God and helps believers recognize what God has freely given. ([1 Corinthians 2:10-12](#))
- Fellowship with Jesus is the root from which calling, love, ministry, and lasting fruit grow. ([1 Corinthians 1:9](#))
- Communion with the Holy Spirit is an experienced partnership that changes the believer. ([2 Corinthians 13:14](#))

“Your calling is to fellowship with Jesus.”

STUDY [1 Corinthians 2:10-12](#); [1 Corinthians 1:9](#); [2 Corinthians 13:14](#)

06 Become ready, fruitful, and faithful.

- Knowledge of God’s will should produce a worthy walk, fruitful work, endurance, joy, and increasing knowledge of Him. ([Colossians 1:9-14](#))

- Becoming complete means allowing God to arrange, equip, repair, and prepare what is lacking for His purposes. ([2 Corinthians 13:11](#))

“We just want to be changed into what You’ve called us to be.”

STUDY [Colossians 1:9-14](#); [2 Corinthians 13:11](#)

SCRIPTURE INDEX - NKJV

Read the Word in context.

[Romans 5:8](#)

[Philippians 3:7-9](#)

[Philippians 3:10-11](#)

[John 17:3](#)

[Philippians 3:12-16](#)

[Colossians 1:24-27](#)

[Galatians 2:20](#)

[1 Corinthians 2:10-12](#)

[1 Corinthians 1:9](#)

[2 Corinthians 13:14](#)

[Colossians 1:9-14](#)

[2 Corinthians 13:11](#)

What are you pursuing above Christ?

What ambition, attachment, or concern do you need to count as loss so Christ can remain central?

How can you pursue knowing Jesus more intentionally this week?

What past failure or former success do you need to release in order to press forward?

Where should Christ's inward work become more visible in your conduct, relationships, or calling?
