

Discussion Guide
"Chasing Myself"
Pastor Daniel Floyd

Starter What's something you enjoy doing so much more when you have someone to share it with? It could be traveling, watching a game, trying a new restaurant, or even tackling a project around the house. Who is someone you especially enjoy sharing those experiences with, and what makes that relationship meaningful?

Sermon Summary

We were never meant to do life alone! Chasing a me-centered life leads to isolation, while investing in meaningful relationships brings purpose, strength, and joy. Discover why we need people who challenge us, encourage us, and help us grow—and how we can become those kinds of friends to others.

ACT

As you absorb sermons, read, or participate in group discussion, take notes and make a plan to apply what God's teaching you.

A (Action): Mark important ideas with an **"A"** to remind you to take action.
C (Contemplate): Use a **"C"** to mark ideas you want to process further.
T (Transfer/Teach): If it's something you need to teach to someone else, note it with a **"T."**

Read

What do these Scriptures teach you about God's character? (Read some or all verses together.)

Genesis 1:26
Ecclesiastes 9:7–10
Luke 12:17–19
Proverbs 17:17
Genesis 2:18
Proverbs 18:1
Proverbs 13:20
1 Thessalonians 5:11
Psalm 68:6
James 3:16
Proverbs 27:19
Proverbs 18:24
Ecclesiastes 4:1–12
Haggai 1:9
Proverbs 27:17

Discuss

Choose questions to keep the discussion moving. There's no need to discuss every question.

1. What are some ways our culture encourages a me-centered life, and how can we recognize when we've allowed our own priorities to take precedence over others?
2. Genesis 2:18 reminds us that God created us for relationships. Why do you think meaningful connection is so important, and what are some things that can keep us from developing deeper relationships?
3. Ecclesiastes 4:9–12 describes how we are stronger together. Who has been someone in your life who has lifted you up, encouraged you, or helped you through a difficult season? How did that relationship impact you?

4. It's important to have people in our lives who sharpen us mentally, support us emotionally, and strengthen us spiritually. Which of these qualities do you most need in your relationships right now, and how can you embody these qualities as a friend yourself?
5. We should enjoy the people God has placed in our lives now. What relationships might you be taking for granted, and what could you do differently to become more intentional about investing in and enjoying those people?

Go Deeper

1. Study Exodus 17:8–13 (Moses, Aaron, and Hur). Who has helped hold you up during a difficult season, and how can you be that kind of support for someone else?
2. Study Ruth 1:6–18 (Ruth and Naomi). What does Ruth's commitment teach us about being a faithful friend, especially when a relationship requires sacrifice?
3. Study Mark 2:1–12 (friends who carried a paralyzed man to Jesus). Who in your life needs you to help them get closer to Jesus? What could that look like in a practical way?
4. Study Acts 2:42–47 (the early Church). What can our small group learn from the early Church about creating a community where people feel known, supported, and cared for?

Apply

1. Instead of waiting for someone else to reach out, take the initiative. Invite someone to coffee, introduce yourself to someone new, or reconnect with a friend you've lost touch with.
2. Consider who has your ear and how those relationships are shaping your decisions, attitudes, and faith. Pursue relationships with people who challenge you, encourage you, and strengthen you spiritually.
3. Be intentional about investing in the relationships God has placed in your life. Make time to sharpen, support, and encourage others through meaningful conversations, speaking the truth in love, celebrating their successes, offering forgiveness, and showing up in both the ordinary moments and difficult seasons.

Pray

Here are some prayer points:

1. Ask God to reveal areas of selfishness and help you shift your focus from yourself to loving and serving the people around you.
2. Pray for God to deepen your existing relationships and bring godly friendships into your life that will encourage, challenge, and strengthen your faith.
3. Pray for opportunities to reach out to others, welcome those who feel isolated, and build a community where people experience the love of Jesus.

Leadership Tip

Create an environment where everyone feels seen and included. Not everyone in your group has deep friendships or a strong support system. Some may be experiencing loneliness, isolation, or difficult relationships. Be sensitive to those realities and avoid making anyone feel pressured to share more than they're comfortable with. Encourage everyone to consider one practical way they can initiate connection, invest in someone else, or become a stronger friend. Remember, your small group can be more than a weekly gathering—it can become the kind of community where people are known, encouraged, challenged, and supported through every season of life.