

GROUP STUDY 1: FAME

Introduction: What really makes for a happy life? A dream job, a bigger house, or a new relationship? If you're always hungry for the next big thing, but frustrated because it never seems to satisfy, you might be *Chasing Carrots*. It's time to hop off the treadmill and chase after something real.

ICE BREAKERS

- Have you ever been star-struck by someone famous?
- What are some of the pros and cons that come with fame?

EXPLORE

Being a celebrity—or just having your name be known—can feel pretty good. But is it fulfilling? When the fame fades, what are we left with? Let's take a look at what these passages have to tell us.

- Read Psalm 115:1
 - Are there any areas of your life where you're tempted to pursue fame instead of being faithful?
- Read 1 Chronicles 14:16-17
 - God uses grants fame here and uses it. What do you think is God's purpose in this?
- Read John 3:30
 - What is John the Baptists attitude in his work and ministry?
- Read 1 Thessalonians 2:4-6
 - How does Paul see his work? Have you ever considered that God has entrusted you with something?
- Read Psalm 102:11-12
 - What in our lives reminds us to have this kind of perspective?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Have you ever pursued fame in the past, even in small ways? How did you pursue it?
- How does pursuing fame move us away from God and others?
- How can you resist cravings for fame? Do you have any practices that have helped?
- What are some ways you can elevate God and others this week, rather than yourself?
- We're all chasing something. What are some other things that you can think of that you chase at times?

PRAYER & PRACTICE

One of the most effective ways to avoid pursuing fame is to pursue God and others. Take some time to pray for one another. Then, think of someone in need of encouragement. Share with the group, if appropriate, and commit to lifting them up in some small (or big!) way this week.

