

## SEEK THINGS ABOVE

-Ryan Parsons-

I have a lot of kids in my yard every day, and their favorite game is hide-and-seek. They count, run, chase, scream and sometimes they hide well. The bad news is there are only a few good hiding places and seeking isn't all that hard. Playing chase would be easier, but if I were to suggest that, they would say, "Dad! Chase is boring!"

Jesus doesn't call us to a game of hide-and-seek, but rather a game of Seek-and-Find.

### **Matthew 7:7-8**

*7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.*

There is no shortage of shiny things in this life that compete for our attention. Distraction seems to be one of the main tactics of the darkness. No one is immune to this threat. This week, while reading through the New Testament in 90 days, I was reminded of the time Paul call the minds of the Colossian Christians back to Jesus' words.

### **Colossians 3:1-2**

*"If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth."*

It is so easy to let our gaze lower to the everyday things of this earth. Yet, Paul encourages them to lift the eyes of their hearts upward. What should they be seeking? Again, Paul brings Jesus' teaching before them

### **Matthew 6:33**

*But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

Moreover, in the parable of the sower (Mt 13, Mk 4), Jesus describes hearts consumed by the cares of the world as seed sown among the thorns. In them, the word becomes choked and unfruitful, but that isn't what God wants.

God has promised repeatedly in scripture that those who seek the things that are above will be blessed beyond measure. They will grow, flourish, and be fruitful (Mk 4:20).

### **Psalm 9:10**

*And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you.*

### **Psalm 119:2**

*Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart,*

Don't get distracted. Keep looking up!