

*The saints shall persevere in holiness, because God perseveres in grace.*

**Charles H. Spurgeon**

## Breaking of Bread & Fellowship

**Take some time to share a meal and build relationships.** Use the questions below to foster discussion.

Last week, we discussed ruthlessly fighting our sin. How did you fight sin this past week?

What are you reading in the Word this week?

**Review this week's sermon.** Share your favorite part, points you related to most, or questions with the group. **Main Idea: We are most secure when we belong to Christ.**

## Teaching

**Read Matthew 18:10-14 together as a group.** As you read, make note of any key phrases that stand out or any questions that arise. Then, use the questions and scripture references for group discussion.

1

Jesus explains that God delights in protecting his children. How does he do this? How have you experienced God's protection?

*Matt 18:10  
Heb 1:14*

2

In this parable of the lost sheep, we see the pursuit of God toward us. Why would he leave the 99 to pursue the 1 that went astray? What does this say about the character of our shepherd?

*Matt 18:12-14  
Luke 19:10  
John 10:11*

3

How can followers of Jesus know that their salvation is secure? Where can we look to in Scripture for encouragement when we lack assurance? Make note of some of those references and work to memorize one or two.

*Matt 18:11-14  
1 John 5:11-13  
John 5:24  
John 10:28-29  
Romans 8:16  
Romans 8:38-39  
Eph 1:13-14*

## Prayer

**Praise** God for the security that we have in Christ. Though we wander, he is patient with us, pursues us, and rejoices over us when we are found.

**Think** about what causes you go astray. Bring these things to the Lord in prayer and **repent**.

**Ask** God to form your heart and cause you to pursue Christ the way he pursues you.