



DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM CURRICULUM GUIDE WEEK 2 - SEPT 28 & OCT 1

LEADER INFO:

****Please reach out to new people as they sign up for your group. If you get an email about someone signing up log into your ccb group page and look under Participants.

****Please take attendance each week through your email reminder or the Community Church Builder Group Leader app.

**** If you do not have your new Resource Guide please pick one up at the Welcome Desk at each campus.

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Churchwide Serve Day - On October 21, we as a church are going to be taking over Jacksonville to serve and love our neighbors. We have over 3,000 needs all over Jacksonville to love our neighbor. We are encouraging Disciple Groups to come up with an opportunity in their area where they can be a blessing. Go to coe22.com/serveday to sign up for a need already there or submit a new one.

TEXTS: JOHN 8:1-11, 1 PETER 4:7-11

THE RECAP: (10 MINUTES)

In week 2 of the Love Your Neighbor series Pastor Joby walked through the call to love in the midst of suffering in 1 Peter 4 and the grace and truth Jesus poured out onto the adulterous woman in John 8. Christ's love covered our sin on the cross so we respond by loving others. We are not called to fix or save people but we are called to love them because God first loved and accepted us.

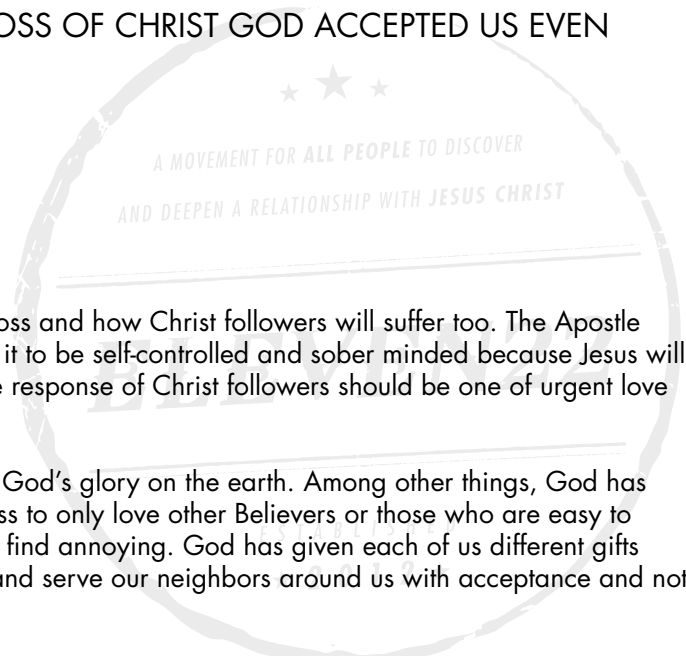
THE POINT: LOVE ACCEPTS BECAUSE AT THE CROSS OF CHRIST GOD ACCEPTED US EVEN WHEN WE WERE UNACCEPTABLE.

TEACHING & DIALOGUE

Have someone read 1 Peter 4:7-11 out loud.

1 Peter 4 is all about suffering in reference to Christ on the cross and how Christ followers will suffer too. The Apostle Peter explains that suffering on earth is inevitable but it is worth it to be self-controlled and sober minded because Jesus will come back one day. Jesus exemplified love on the cross and the response of Christ followers should be one of urgent love towards God and others.

Our motives and actions as Believers should be a reflection of God's glory on the earth. Among other things, God has called us to love others earnestly. He does not give us a free pass to only love other Believers or those who are easy to love, but actually calls us to love our enemies and those that we find annoying. God has given each of us different gifts and abilities, and we should use what He has given us to love and serve our neighbors around us with acceptance and not alienation.



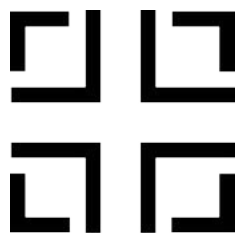
1. Why are we called to love others?
(Read 1 Peter 4:1- Because Christ loves us first and proved it by the cross.)
2. How does your heart need to change to live out biblical love?
(The Gospel is not about behavior modification. God justifies our heart when we surrender to Christ and the Holy Spirit starts to change us from the inside out. We must ask God to change our hearts to be more like His.)
3. What are some thoughts or behaviors that need to be surrendered to God so that you can better love others?
(Think about your lack of hospitality or presence of discrimination)

Have someone read John 8:1-11 out loud.

Jesus was intentionally put in a difficult situation where those around Him wanted to test Him and back Him into a corner. Instead of responding harshly or backing away from a tense conversation, Jesus responded with both grace and truth. Jesus showed the woman grace by not condemning her and leading her into truth by calling her to leave her life of sin behind. How Jesus talked to the woman changed her whole life! Jesus loved her too much to tolerate her sin, but instead, He called her to a new identity and a new life. When people know who they are in Christ, it changes their identity, and rightly understanding your identity always comes before changing your activity. Just as Christ did, we should respond to others with grace and truth, especially in the difficult conversations.

4. What does this passage tell us about God’s character?
(He is grace, and He is truth. He lavished His love on us when we deserved it the least and still does.)
5. How should we respond to others who are in sin?
(Full of grace and full of truth, just as Jesus responded to the woman.)
6. What does this passage tell us about how we should respond to God in the midst of our own sin?
(God’s kindness leads us to repentance. Repentance is not just saying you’re sorry and moving on but realizing how deep your sin runs and how much deeper God’s grace runs. Repentance is turning from sin and running to God.)
7. Who do you need to accept because God has accepted you?
(Who have you alienated or not forgiven? Who have you looked over?)

DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY ACTION STEP

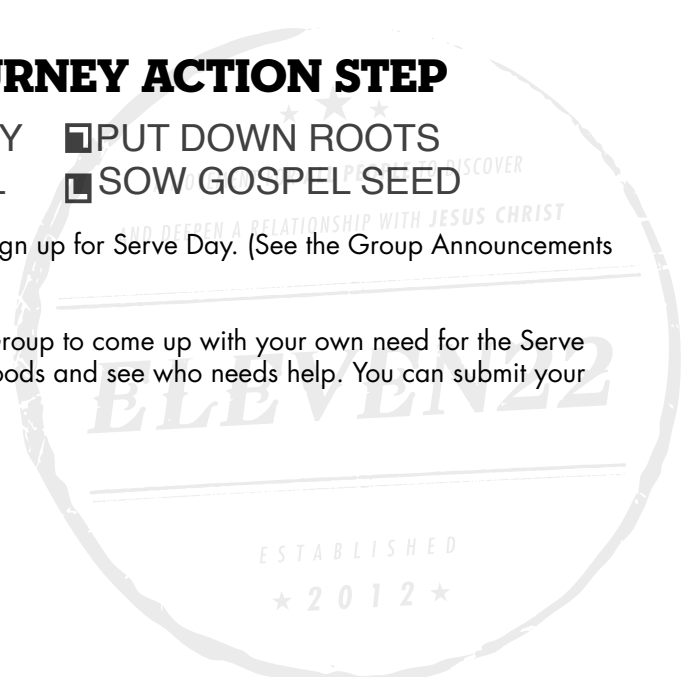


BEFORE ALL THINGS

- CULTIVATE MINISTRY
- PUT DOWN ROOTS
- PLANT THE GOSPEL
- SOW GOSPEL SEED

Love others by serving them and sign up for Serve Day. (See the Group Announcements above)

We would love for your Disciple Group to come up with your own need for the Serve Day. Look around your neighborhoods and see who needs help. You can submit your idea at coe22.com/serveday.



DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY
A disciple is someone who...

