



DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM CURRICULUM GUIDE WEEK 28: JULY 26 & 29

LEADER INFO:

PLEASE remember to take attendance each week through your email reminders or your church community builder LEAD app.

As a Disciple Group Leader, you are required to become a Covenant Member. There is one more opportunity for you to go through the class before the Fall Semester begins: August 19. Classes begin at 1PM.

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Encounter Retreats - This year we are adding more Encounter Retreats, a chance to get away from your normal routines and dive deeper into your relationship with Jesus and connect with others.

Go to coe22.com/deepen for more information!

Spiritual Disciplines Encounter – September 21 - September 23

Hunting Encounter – September 23 – September 26

Marriage Encounter B – September 27 – September 30

Women's Encounter B – October 19 – October 21

Golf Encounter – October 19 – October 21

Surf Encounter B – October 22 – October 29

Sporting Clays Encounter – December 8

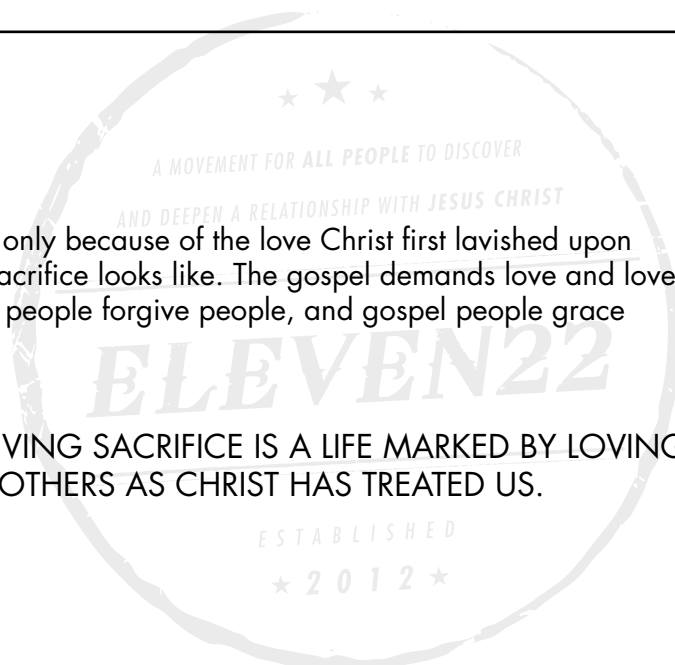
Covenant Member Classes - If you are ready to move from attending to fully partnering in the mission, vision, and values of Eleven22, then join us for an upcoming covenant membership class at your campus: July 22, July 29, and August 19 at 1:00pm.

TEXTS: ROMANS 12:9-21

THE RECAP: (10 MINUTES)

As followers of Jesus, our lives should be marked by love, only because of the love Christ first lavished upon us. In this passage of Romans, we see what a true living sacrifice looks like. The gospel demands love and love demands forgiveness. Loved people love people, forgiven people forgive people, and gospel people grace people.

THE POINT: A LIFE OFFERED TO THE LORD AS A LIVING SACRIFICE IS A LIFE MARKED BY LOVING ONE ANOTHER. THE GOSPEL CALLS US TO TREAT OTHERS AS CHRIST HAS TREATED US.



TEACHING & DIALOGUE

Have someone read Romans 12:9-13 out loud.

In this passage of Scripture, we find instructions on how to live a Gospel-infected life. The evidence of our justification is love. As a Jesus-follower, we should be marked by love in all that we do. Through Christ's atoning sacrifice, God acts to remove the guilt and penalty for our sin, and thus we become righteous, or justified. This occurs by faith alone.

1. The only reason we can love others is because Christ first loved us. What does this truth reveal to us about the nature of who God is?
(Christ loved us first before we could ever begin to love Him. This shows us that He is loving, gracious, merciful, and kind. Before we ever did anything to "earn" His love, He graciously and tenderly lavished His magnificent love upon us.)
2. What is honor and what are some examples of how we can honor one another?
(Honor is somewhat intangible, but we generally know it when we see it. It's generally thought of when we show respect and admiration. While honor is a chosen state of the heart, it is best shown through actions that we must choose to give. These verses even test us to outdo one another in showing honor...)
3. Reread verse 9. What's does it actually mean to "abhor what is evil" and how can we put action to the second part of that verse – "hold fast to what is good"?
(To abhor what is evil is to regard evil with disgust and hatred. Because hating evil and loving good is the only way to truly and genuinely love, we cannot be tolerant of any evil. Tolerance is not a biblical value, but love is. We must cling to what is good!)
4. What stands out to you about verse 12, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer"?
(Hope, tribulation and prayer are very much interconnected. We know that difficult times, or tribulation, will certainly come. If our hope is so strong that we're rejoicing in it, the tribulations will be easier to endure only because our hope is rooted in our solid foundation, Jesus. Prayer tends to strengthen our faith, lifting us up in hope that is filled with joyful expectations. Remember to focus on the positive.)

Have someone read Romans 12:14 out loud.

This verse is related to those who persecute us and are outside the Christian family. As believers, we know that we'll be persecuted (2 Timothy 3:12), and we also know that we will be blessed for it (Matthew 5:10).

5. What does this verse tell us about the character and nature of God?
(Jesus is the ultimate example of blessing those who persecute you. God sent Jesus to live the perfect life in the flesh. In Jesus' final days here, He was heavily persecuted. In His final moments, He uttered, "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34). At this moment, the Roman soldiers were gambling with lots of His clothing, religious leaders were mocking Him, and the crowd was blaspheming Him. Yet, even while being persecuted, Jesus responded by blessing all of humanity.)

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AND DEEPEN A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST

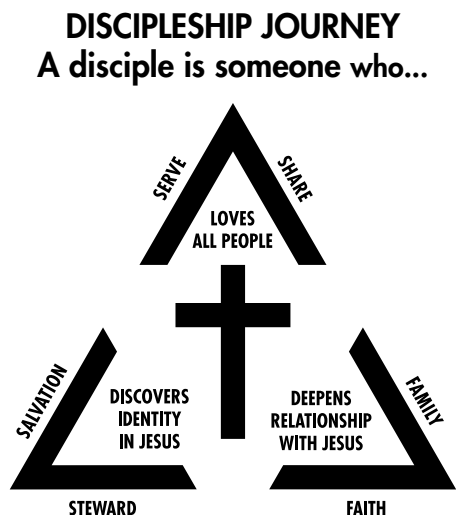
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Have someone read Romans 12:15-21 out loud.

These verses help us learn how to love all people, both within and outside the church Body. We are called to treat others in the same manner as Christ treated us. Just like we talked about earlier, Jesus set the prime example for us to follow when it comes to loving others.

6. Because harmony is not uniformity, how can we live in harmony with one another in our practical day to day lives?
(A key concept here is unity. At the Church of Eleven22, we are a movement for all people, so we may look different than many other churches. But, our vision as a church calls us to that. It's easier to live in harmony with people who are just like us, but it requires more effort to do so with those who are different.)
7. How can studying God's word deepen our ability to overcome evil with good?
(The last few verses of this passage from Romans 12 teach us to live peaceably with all people, so far as it depends on us. Reflect back on Verse 9 and spend a few moments meditating on this point: Loved people love people, forgiven people forgive people, and gospel people grace people... Find other verses to meditate on, such as "Thy word, O Lord, is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." Reading God's word is like turning on a light in a dark corner. Seek to identify ways we can be a blessing to our enemies – and go a step further and pray for them.)
8. Based on Romans 12:9-21, what does the gospel demand of us?
(The gospel demands love, and love demands forgiveness. Because Christ first loved us, we GET to love all people. Because Jesus set the example of how to love both our friends and our enemies, we GET to offer grace and forgiveness to all people. And because when Jesus hung on the cross and said, "It is finished", that GETS to count for you and for ALL people.)

DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY ACTION STEP



Are you ready to take the next step and become a Covenant Member? If you are ready to move from attending to fully partnering in the mission, vision, and values of Eleven22, then join us for an upcoming covenant membership class at your campus. We have a few opportunities coming up for you to do just that! Register at coe22.com/membership.

