

DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM CURRICULUM GUIDE WEEK 31: AUGUST 16 & 19

LEADER INFO:

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

** Leaders, as you share these specific announcements, we want to encourage you to really push your Group to attend as these are very important events in the life of The Church of Eleven22! A great way to do this would be to encourage your Group to go to these events together. **

On-Boarding is starting this weekend before and after ALL services! If you would like to serve before and after a service (or several), please [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up!

Don't forget to request to join our closed Facebook page to stay in the loop on all the latest events and updates! You can join by searching for "The Church of Eleven22 Disciple Group Leaders" on Facebook and then requesting to join the group!

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Elder-Led Prayer - Elder-led Prayer is a night of worship, prayer and reflection led by our Board of Elders. This is an intimate event for our church family to come together and prepare for the Daniel Fast and Saturated 2018.

August 24 // 6:00pm at the San Pablo campus

Coe22.com/events

Deepen Encounter - The Deepen Encounter is a two day event that will include worship, comedy, devotional time, vision and fellowship opportunities. Friday night will begin directly following Elder-led Prayer; dinner is provided prior to Elder-led Prayer as well as breakfast on Saturday morning. Childcare available upon request.

RSVP at coe22.com/deepenencounter

Friday-Saturday, August 24-25 - San Pablo // 7:00pm

Saturated Baptisms - If you'd like to be batpized during Saturated, there will be baptism classes after every service August 23-September 9. **If you'd like to serve** during Saturated baptisms with the Spiritual Formation team, [sign up here](#).

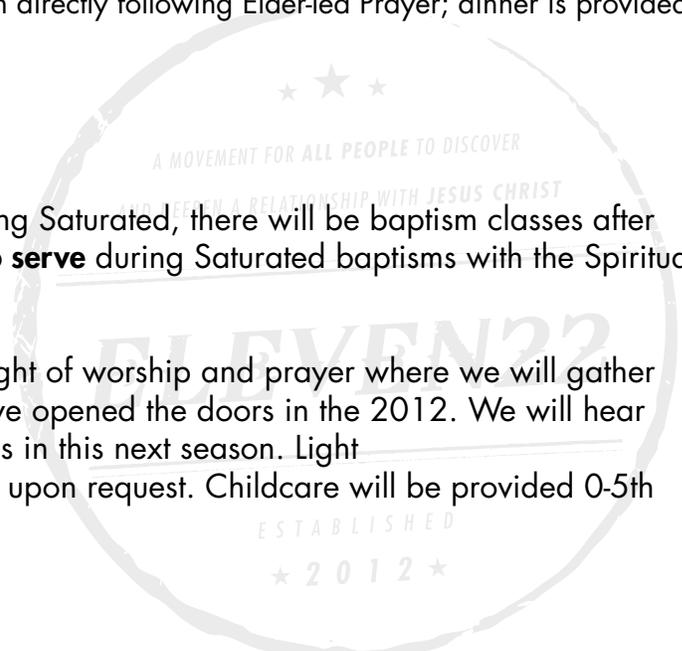
Vision Gathering - These Vision Gathering will be a night of worship and prayer where we will gather together and celebrate all that God has done since we opened the doors in the 2012. We will hear from Pastor Joby about where he sees God leading us in this next season. Light dinner will be served at 6:15pm, childcare available upon request. Childcare will be provided 0-5th grade. Childcare available upon request.

RSVP at coe22.com/visiongathering

Tuesday, August 28 - All Campuses // 7:00pm

Tuesday, September 18 - San Pablo Only // 7:00pm

Tuesday, October 2 - All Campuses // 7:00pm



TEXTS: ROMANS 14:1-15:7

THE RECAP: (10 MINUTES)

This week, we unpacked what Paul wrote in Romans 14 & the beginning of chapter 15. We see that even in the early days of the Church, Paul had to encourage Christians to be united for God's glory and for the sake of the gospel! As a Christian, it is not just you and Jesus. We are saved into community and our actions affect one another. The ultimate goal and purpose of unity within the Church is for the glory of God!

THE POINT: THE GOSPEL COMPELS ME TO SACRIFICE MYSELF FOR YOU TO THE GLORY OF GOD, NOT JUSTIFY MYSELF FOR ME AND MY OWN GLORY.

"IN ESSENTIALS, UNITY; IN NON-ESSENTIALS, LIBERTY; AND IN ALL THINGS, CHARITY." – JOHN WESLEY (MAYBE... THERE IS AN ONGOING INTERNET BATTLE OVER WHO SAID IT FIRST... HOW IRONIC)

TEACHING & DIALOGUE

Have someone read Romans 14:1-12 out loud.

Last week, Paul taught by echoing the words of Jesus in Matthew: the greatest commandment is to love God and love people. As we move forward to this next passage of Scripture, Paul is explaining that an individual who truly loves God will demonstrate that love through their life and actions. Here, Paul is providing practical examples of how to demonstrate the love of Christ: by not passing judgement on one another, nor causing one to stumble.

1. What does this passage teach us about who God is?
(God alone is the One who sits on the judgement seat (v10-11). Only He knows all things, and therefore He alone is qualified to judge each individual's heart and actions. In verse 11, Paul quotes Isaiah 45:23, saying that in the end every knee will bow to the One true God and every tongue will confess Him as Lord. God is omnipotent (all-powerful), omniscient (all-knowing), and omnipresent (everywhere at the same time) and He has the authority to be either Savior or Judge to every person. He alone is qualified to be both. Judgement and power are not yours to yield over others, especially brothers and sisters in the faith.)
2. How is your unity with the church body a gospel issue? Use Romans 14:7-9 to help you answer.
(The gospel, or good news, is that if you believe that Jesus is the Son of God, trust that His death on the cross counted for you, and in response to that, you surrender your life to His Lordship, then you are a Christian. When you are saved, it is NOT just you and Jesus. You have been saved into a community and your actions affect others. Verse 8 says, "We are the Lord's." This means that as we are called into a right relationship with God, and we are simultaneously called into a communal relationship with other believers. We are a movement for ALL people to discover and deepen a relationship with Jesus Christ.)
3. These believers are quarreling amongst themselves over rules, traditions and the application of them. Paul is writing here to urge them to stop disputing one another. What can we learn from his encouragement?
(While Paul is addressing a couple of specific disputes here that we might not be able to relate to, we can most certainly learn from his words. He is calling for a mutual acceptance between believers who disagree about how things are done. Each group is passing judgment on the other for their differences, when both viewpoints are acceptable. What Paul is explaining is that each person must follow his own conscience as the Holy Spirit has specifically convicted him or her. Believers are all in the

process of progressive sanctification – meaning that overtime we start to think and act more like Jesus because of the Holy Spirit’s work in our lives – and we are all in different places in that process. We are accountable to where God has us, not where your neighbor has you, and not where you wish your neighbor was.)

4. Can you think of an example from your own life where you have quarreled with or judged another believer over non-essential issues (preferences that are not the gospel)? What are you doing or have you done to combat this and promote unity instead?
(Examples will vary, but what is important is that each person observes what the Holy Spirit has convicted him or her of – as it is not necessarily just the action that honors the Lord, but the heart behind that action. In doing what God convicted you to do, you give thanks, honor and glory to Him in all things. “In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; and in all things, charity.” – John Wesley)
5. Romans 14:23 states, “For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.” How does this truth challenge or shift your perspective of your own actions and decisions?
(This verse tells us that the WHY is more important than the WHAT in the life of the Christ-follower. God is concerning first with the motives of our hearts. We can do the right thing for the wrong reasons. And we can do things completely opposite from our neighbor and both be pleasing to God. Being “right” about non-essential issues is secondary to being in right relationship with my brother. When the heart faithfully trusts God, then the actions that come forth will inevitably honor Him, and we will seek to find love for and unity with other believers.)

Have someone read Romans 15:1-7 out loud.

This section of scripture is the culmination of the point that Paul has been making through the examples in the previous chapter. The ultimate reason behind our unity is the gospel of Christ. Jesus’ life is our supreme example for how to love others well, for our good and for God’s glory.

6. Where can we look to find the strength or motivation to accept the neighbor that we disagree with?
(We can look to the life and example of Jesus. Just as we were accepted by Christ even though we are wretched, black-hearted sinners, we can accept one another as we have been purchased by the same cleansing blood. And we have been assured through God’s word that this mutual acceptance is bringing unity to the church body and glory to God. It won’t always be easy or comfortable, but when we encourage and spur one another on, in spite of our differences, we see that the church is more beautiful as it becomes how God intended it to be.)
7. Read Philippians 2:1-11. Paul is writing here to tell the believers at Philippi to unite in love and humility as Jesus represented in His life of service. How does Jesus’ example of leading through humility cause you to desire cultivating humility in your own life, especially as it affects the church body?
(Since the Fall in the Garden of Eden, we humans have had a tendency to look out for our own interests before the interests of others. Because Jesus laid down His own life for our sake, we are called to follow His example by looking out for the interests of others, counting them as more significant than ourselves. When we love others in this way, we are using our diverse gifts in an agreeable, cooperative spirit with a focus on giving glory to God, not making much of ourselves. Humility is essential in helping the church body grow and thrive.)

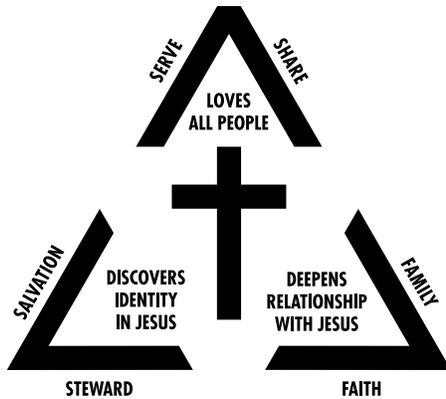
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★ 2012 ★

DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY ACTION STEP

DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY
A disciple is someone who...



As we look ahead and begin to prepare our hearts for Saturated, consider how we can love others in a way that promotes unity in the church body. Take the last little bit of time in your Disciple Group to pray as a Group – popcorn style or in a circle – for revival in Jacksonville, for unity within the Church body, and for unity in the gospel. As you pray throughout the weeks to come, ask God to reveal to you ways that He can use your gifting(s) to build up the church body for His glory.

