

DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM

VIDEO CURRICULUM GUIDE

WEEK 11: MARCH 22 & 25

LEADER INFO:

Check your email and mailbox to receive an invitation to our Disciple Group Leader/Coach Input Night on April 16.

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Good Fruesday (Good Friday on a Tuesday) Service- There is no celebration of the risen King without the crucifixion. Join us for a Good Friday service where we will walk through the seven sayings of Christ on the cross. We can't properly celebrate the resurrected Jesus without first meditating on His suffering that Friday.

Tuesday, March 27 // 6:30pm at all campuses.

Family Easter Celebration - Join us for Family Easter Celebration at all campuses with inflatables, games and more for the kids! There will be an Easter service immediately following at 5:30pm.

Saturday, March 31 // 3:00-5:00pm

Marriage Encounter Retreat - This marriage encounter is designed for couples to get away and be in a relaxed and fun environment to renew, repair or rejuvenate your connection with your spouse. Invest your time and refocus on Jesus as the center of your most important covenant.

April 26-29, The Plantation at Crystal River, FL

To find out more info and to sign up go to coe22.com/deepen. Sign up by April 2.

TEXTS: ROMANS ROMANS 5:1-11, JAMES 1:2-4

(Play video)

VIDEO SEGMENT 1:

THE POINT: GRACE IS THE FREE:

GIFT OF
RIGHTEOUSNESS BY FAITH
A PART FROM WORKS THAT
CHANGES WHO WE ARE BY
ETERNALLY SECURING US IN GOD'S LOVE

(Pause video and discuss questions)

Have someone read Romans 5:1-2 out loud.

1. According to verse 1, how can you have peace with God?
(Peace with God comes through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. For the believer that trusts in Jesus for the forgiveness of his/her sins, there is no longer the fear of judgement and wrath of God. This is not merely a subjective feeling,



but an objective reality. The grace in which we stand is definite and secure. When Jesus declared that, "it is finished," on the cross right before He died {John 19:30}, He had accomplished His mission. Then He arose from the grave three days later, He conquered death and affirmed His divinity and our justification along with it.)

2. How does an individual "obtain access" to God's grace? Use verses 1 and 2 to help you answer.
(One can receive grace through faith alone in Jesus Christ alone. In the sermon this week, Pastor Britt talked about how grace is a gift: unmerited, undeserved and completely free. There is nothing you can do to make God love you more, and there is nothing you can do to make God love you less. His grace has nothing to do with you, other than that you can be the recipient of it, but has everything to do with His character and His glory. Jesus is the gift and God is the giver.)

(Play video)

VIDEO SEGMENT 2:

THE POINT: GRACE IS THE FREE:

GIFT OF
RIGHTEOUSNESS BY FAITH
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(Pause video and discuss questions)

Have someone read Romans 5:3-11 and James 1:2-4 out loud.

3. What does Romans Chapter 5 teach you about God's character?
(While still being perfectly righteous and just, it is God's LOVE {v 8} that led to His plan of salvation through the death of Jesus on the cross. God did not choose to reconcile a people to Himself because they have anything to offer Him, because He is lacking in anything, or because He was lonely; He is completely self-sufficient. He has chosen to save rebellious sinners out of love and for His glory.)
4. Romans verse 3 says that the Christ-follower rejoices in sufferings. What does this look like practically?
(The people of God rejoice not only in future promised glory, but in present trials and sufferings as well. This is not because the trials are pleasant, but because God uses them through the Holy Spirit in us to make us more like Christ. Have you seen this in your life? Situationally, this can take many forms and look different for everyone..)

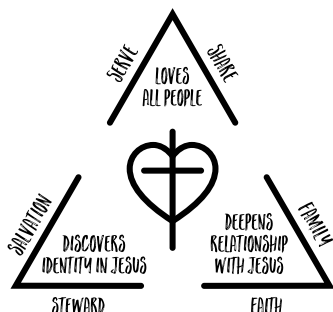
James, Jesus' half-brother, is the writer of this letter. After Jesus' death and resurrection, James became one of the leaders of the Jewish Christians. God uses James' message here to brothers and sisters to rebuke their worldliness. The main theme is to truly live out your faith: being a doer and not just a hearer of the Word. James' plain, direct language and practicality make it particularly helpful to Christ-followers.

5. What do these verses say about trials/suffering?
(One of the key words from these verses is "when." It doesn't say IF you meet trials, it says WHEN. Trials, hard circumstances, and suffering are, sadly, a part of normal Christian life, and they WILL come. Just as the verses in Romans explain, Christ-followers are to consider trials as joy because of what they produce in us. The "joy" here is not an actual feeling of enjoyment in the face of hard things or a fake front. What we are called to do, is to think about the trials in a particular way, through the lens of having eternity in mind. When you lay down your life to Christ, the Holy Spirit begins in you a process or a journey of making you more like Jesus; this is called sanctification. It will not be easy or comfortable, but God does promise that it is for our ultimate good and His glory.)

6. How has God used a past or present trial or suffering to make you more like Jesus or to draw you to himself? *(Opening up about hardships often feels raw and vulnerable, but we are called to bear one another's burdens, pray for and encourage each other. Often times the work that God is doing in our own lives and stories is not just to teach us individually, but can be for the teaching and encouragement of your brothers and sisters in Christ as well. Allow God to use you and your story if you feel called to share.)*

DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY ACTION STEP

DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY
A disciple is someone who...



If anyone in the Group needs prayer concerning hope in their suffering surround them and pray for them.

If you are walking through a trial and need a fellow brother or sister in Christ to walk with you please go to coe22.com/care to sign up for a care team member to reach out. We want to intercede to the Lord on your behalf.

