



# DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM CURRICULUM GUIDE

## WEEK 13: APRIL 12 & 15

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### LEADER INFO:

The official Spring semester ends May 6. This is a great time to identify a new leader and help them get into a training so they can launch in the summer. The Summer semester starts June 4. Over the break we will provide a leaner version of curriculum.

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### GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Compassion Mobile Experience**- This year we will have the Compassion Truck set up at the Arlington campus for people to walk through and see how God has rescued children all over the world from poverty in Jesus name. Sign up to serve at this wonderful experience!

**April 26-30 at the Arlington campus**

Find times and a reservation link [coe22.com/news](https://coe22.com/news)

You can also sign up to serve at Compassion tables set up in service. Come be a part of helping people change the lives of children all over the world!

[https://coe22.ccbchurch.com/need\\_detail.php?need\\_id=4563](https://coe22.ccbchurch.com/need_detail.php?need_id=4563)

Or contact Sally Wilber at [sally.wilber@coe22.com](mailto:sally.wilber@coe22.com)

**Baptism Classes** – If you have never been baptized as a Believer we want to celebrate this next step of faith at Beach Baptism on May 20! Join us at a baptism class **offered now-May 20 after every service at all campuses.**

**New Disciple Group Leader Trainings** - If you are interested in leading a Disciple Group go to [coe22.com/disciplegroups](https://coe22.com/disciplegroups) to fill out the application and sign up for a training in April or May.

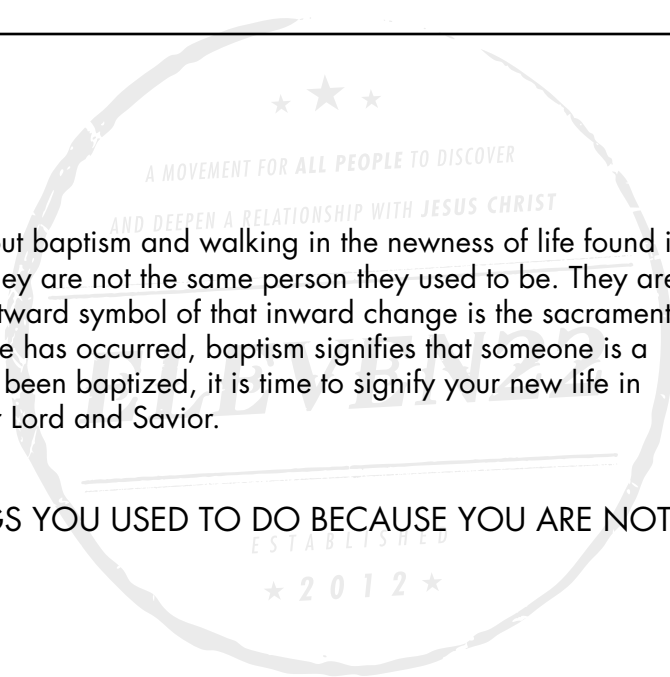
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**TEXTS: ACTS 22:12-16, ROMANS 6:1-4**

### THE RECAP: (10 MINUTES)

In week 13 of the Romans series, Pastor Joby talked about baptism and walking in the newness of life found in Romans 6:1-4. When someone places their trust in Jesus they are not the same person they used to be. They are not defined by their past but now defined by Jesus. The outward symbol of that inward change is the sacrament of baptism. Much like a wedding band signifies a marriage has occurred, baptism signifies that someone is a new creation in Christ. If you are a believer and have not been baptized, it is time to signify your new life in Christ with the public proclamation that Jesus Christ is your Lord and Savior.

**THE POINT:** YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THE THINGS YOU USED TO DO BECAUSE YOU ARE NOT THE PERSON THAT YOU USED TO BE.



# TEACHING & DIALOGUE

**Have someone read Romans 6:1-2 out loud.**

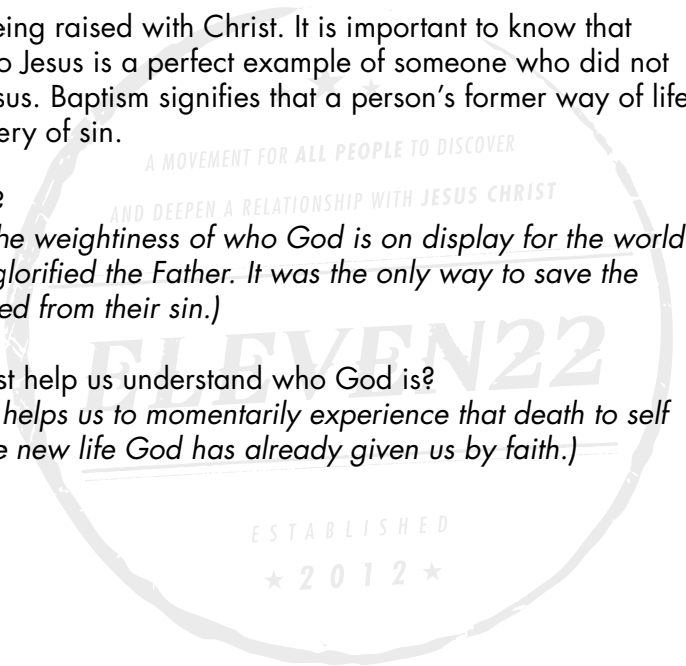
In this text the Apostle Paul is reminding Christians that God's grace does not give a free pass to continue in a habitual life of sin. God's grace is the mostly costly gift because it required the sacrifice of Jesus. It is unthinkable to Paul to believe that someone would intentionally sin more to gain more grace. This is abusing God's grace and is unacceptable because those in Christ have died to sin. The grace of God frees us FROM sin, not TO sin.

1. What is wrong with the mindset of thinking "If I am forgiven no matter what, why not just do what I want?  
*(This would be evidence that you don't KNOW and LOVE God. You just want to USE HIM as a means to your own end. To live as if God's grace is not costly is to live with Jesus NOT as your Lord.)*
2. What do we learn about God's character when we see that His grace abounds?  
*(There is no end to the grace He extends to us. Even though we deserve death, He has an overabundance of grace that He lavishes on us. It is a gift we receive by faith alone and it has no end. It is available to all people who would trust Him.)*
3. What does dying to our sin mean?  
*(Because of Christ's finished work on the cross and the empty grave, if you have surrendered to Him you have died to the penalty of sin (justification), you are in the process of dying to the power of sin (sanctification), and when you enter Heaven you will be free from the presence of sin (glorification.) You are not a slave to sin because you are not the person you used to be.)*
4. How have you experienced life change since surrendering to Christ?  
*(Jesus is the cure for our hereditary disease of sin. When you are healed you show signs of change and improvement from the inside out.)*  
If you haven't surrendered to Christ what keeps you from doing so?

**Have someone read Romans 6:3-4 out loud.**

Baptism is the outward expression of dying to sin and being raised with Christ. It is important to know that baptism does not save you. The thief being crucified next to Jesus is a perfect example of someone who did not receive this sacrament, yet was promised eternal life by Jesus. Baptism signifies that a person's former way of life has been put to death and depicts a release from the mastery of sin.

5. Why did the death of Jesus glorify the Father (v4)?  
*(The definition of glory in our Romans journal is: the weightiness of who God is on display for the world to see. Jesus' obedience unto death pleased and glorified the Father. It was the only way to save the image bearers who had no way to be fully cleansed from their sin.)*
6. How does understanding we are buried with Christ help us understand who God is?  
*(The outward symbol references what Jesus did. It helps us to momentarily experience that death to self and rising anew. This should help us to walk in the new life God has already given us by faith.)*



**Have someone read Acts 22: 12-16 out loud.**

Paul walks into Damascus after having an encounter with Jesus. He is unable to see until he comes across Ananias. There his sight is restored and he is told to be a witness for the name of Jesus and to be baptized. Paul has an encounter with Jesus that changes the entire direction of his life. From a life filled with being a religious persecutor of Christians to a witness to the world.

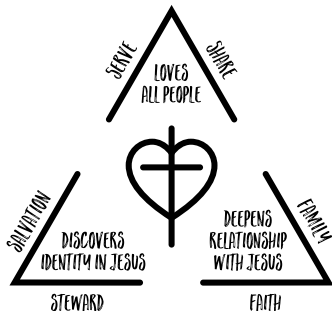
7. If you have not been baptized as a Believer, what is holding you back?  
(Think about God not only using your baptism to deepen your faith in Him but what if He used your baptism to change someone else's life?)

\*\*If you were baptized as a baby you should be baptized as a believer. The Bible always and only associates baptism with faith.

\*\*If you were baptized as a believer but want to do it again there is no need to because the 1st time counted.

## DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY ACTION STEP

**DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY**  
**A disciple is someone who...**



Being a Jesus follower means you take one step of obedience at a time. If you've never been baptized as a Believer then that's your next step in your faith walk.

We are offering baptism classes after every service at every campus until May 17 in preparation for Beach Baptism on May 20. Come join us in a class!

