

# DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM CURRICULUM GUIDE WEEK 4: FEBRUARY 1 & 4

### **LEADER INFO:**

The Spring semester has officially started! Please remember to reach out to people as they sign up for your Group asap and to take attendance through your email reminders or your church community builder LEAD app.

### **GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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

Fitness Encounter (for men & women) - February 23-25, St. Simon's Island, GA

Women's Encounter - March 9-11, St. Simon's Ísland, GA

Find out more about these trips and sign up at coe22.com/deepen.

**Elder-Led Prayer** - This is a night of prayer and worship as we kick off Lent. Our Elders will lead us in prayer and the Eleven22 Worship band will lead us in worship as we, together as a church family, begin to prepare our hearts for the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. If you meet on Tuesdays nights come as a Disciple Group!

February 13 // 6:30pm coe22.com/easter

**TEXTS:** MATTHEW 7:1-5, ROMANS 2:1-5, 2 PETER 3:8-10

# THE RECAP: (10 MINUTES)

In week 4 of the Romans series Pastor Joby taught on repentance and how it is by God's kindness that we are led to repent. In Romans 2 the Apostle Paul warns against hypocrisy because we are all in the same boat when it comes to sin. We are all born with spiritually sick hearts deserving of God's wrath. Due to this reality our sin and God's kindness should never be minimized.

THE POINT: IF WE FIND OURSELVES LOOKING DOWN OUR NOSES AT OTHERS FOR WHAT THEY ARE DOING IT IS ONLY BECAUSE WE HAVE TAKEN OUR EYES OFF OF THE CROSS OF JESUS CHRIST AND WHAT HE HAS DONE FOR US.

# **TEACHING & DIALOGUE**

Leaders, revisit the vision of Lead One Launch One to your Group -

As Disciple Groups officially start meeting for the Spring semester we want to spend some time casting the vision of CoE22 Disciple Groups. Disciple Groups are one of the primary avenues of discipleship at the Church of Eleven22 with the intent of helping people deepen their relationship with Jesus and live out their mission as disciple making disciples. Disciple Groups are designed to multiply and we wholeheartedly believe that God has called all of us to be disciple making disciples and in the next season specifically calling some of you to step out in faith and lead a Disciple Group.

We don't want multiplication for the sake of numbers. We want multiplication for the sake of souls. When Disciple Groups multiply it allows more spots open for more people to join a Group all over Jacksonville. It allows people to take a step of faith and we all GET to play a role in that. Praise God!

- 1. Why did you join a Disciple Group?
- 2. Who can you invite to this Disciple Group?

We will continue to talk about launching Groups throughout the semester. Start inviting others to your Disciple Group and start praying now about how you can help open up more spots at the table.

### Let's continue our journey through the book of Romans -

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

The Apostle Paul is writing a letter to the Christian churches in Rome from Corinth, while on his third missionary journey. Here in the second chapter, Paul is answering his critic's objections to what he has just written in chapter one. Because Paul is such a gifted teacher, he is predicting what opposers might object to before they can attack him for it. Paul is condemning the sin of the moralist, no matter their background or position in life. No one is exempt from God's righteous judgement.

- What do these verses teach us about God's character? (We learn in verse 4 that God is kind, patient and shows restraint (forbearance) as He calls us to repentance. True repentance comes only through faith in Jesus Christ.)
- 2. According to verses 1 and 2, why does God's judgement fall upon these people? (God does not condemn them merely because they judged others, but because they practiced the exact same sins they were condemning in others. (Especially the sins mentioned in 1:29-31.) Paul is putting their hypocrisy on full display. However, all people are without excuse because we ALL have sinned against a righteous and holy God.)
- 3. How does God's kindness lead us to repentance? Use verses 4 and 5 to help you answer. (Paul cautions here to not misunderstand that blessings do not necessarily mean right standing with God. There MUST be faith in Christ. A soft and repentant heart is needed to avert God's wrath. Such repentance would express itself in trust in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. It is NOT about good deeds, who your family is, popularity or material possessions.)

### Have someone read Matthew 7:1-5 out loud.

This passage is found near the end of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. While Matthew has recorded it here for us, the speaker in these verses is Jesus himself. While the sermon has several different parts and addresses more than a few topics, it is understood as a whole, to be a challenging yet practical ethic which Jesus expects His followers to live by.

- 4. In what ways or areas of your life are you tempted to judge others harshly for something that you used to do or still do? (Specific examples from your own life will vary. (Ex: You reprimand/discipline your children for dishonesty at school or at home, but you yourself tell "little white lies" regularly.) We are all prone to hypocrisy and it shouldn't be too difficult to think of a few examples where we are quick to judge others and point out their sin, but fail to recognize or rationalize away our own.)
- 5. How can we battle against our tendency to be hypocritical?
  (Spend time in the Word daily. Preach the gospel to ourselves. Regularly confess your sins in prayer. When we remember how much God has forgiven us of, we become less concerned with the sins of others.)

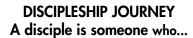
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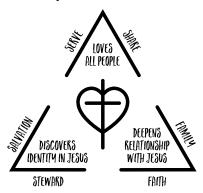
### Have someone read 2 Peter 3:8-10 out loud.

Peter, one of Jesus' 12 disciples, wrote this letter from Rome, not long before he was killed for his faith. Here in the final chapter of his letter he is focused on waring fellow believers of Christ's promised return, and therefore to live a godly life, avoiding false teachers.

- 6. Verse 9 says that when believers repent of their sins it is a result of God's patience. How is that? (God's perspective on time is different from ours as humans. We must keep in mind that the delay of Christ's second coming is not a long duration of time from God's perspective. This delay is a display of God's kindness and patience as He does not wish that any should perish. Though Christians long for Christ's return and the defeat of all evil, as long as the present period of history lasts, an opportunity still remains for people to turn to God in faith.)
- 7. What do you need to repent from? (Complaining, lying, laziness, etc? Remember that the Christian life is a life of repentance. When we understand how loved we are by God we understand that He is a good Father who desires for us to turn from our sin and turn towards Jesus.)

## **DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY ACTION STEP**





Partner up with someone in the Group and pray together. Ask God to help soften your heart and repent from sin in your life. During the week check in on each other and encourage one another with Scripture and prayer.

