



# DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM CURRICULUM GUIDE WEEK 5: FEBRUARY 8 & 11

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## 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.

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## 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 Island, GA

Find out more about these trips and sign up at [coe22.com/deepen](http://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](http://coe22.com/easter)

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## TEXTS: ROMANS 2:6-29

### THE RECAP: (10 MINUTES)

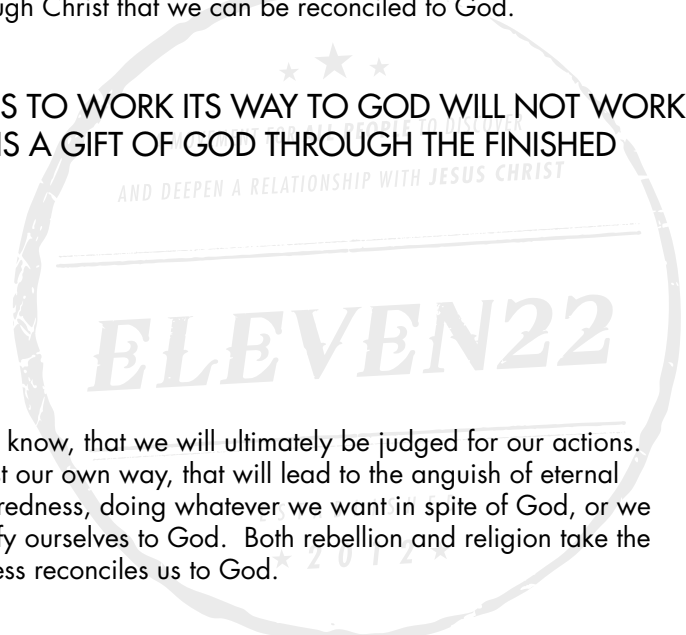
In week 5 of the Romans series Pastor Joby unpacked the difference between works based righteousness and God given righteousness. He taught us that our good works do not direct God's favor, but they reflect God's favor. God is a just Judge who will judge all sin. There is no such thing as inherited faith because the Gospel is a heart matter, not a heritage matter. Works based religion will fail every time because it is only through Christ that we can be reconciled to God.

**THE POINT:** ANY PERSON OR RELIGION THAT TRIES TO WORK ITS WAY TO GOD WILL NOT WORK. RIGHTEOUSNESS (A RIGHT STANDING WITH GOD) IS A GIFT OF GOD THROUGH THE FINISHED WORK OF CHRIST.

## TEACHING & DIALOGUE

*Have someone read Romans 2:6-16 out loud.*

In this passage, Paul reminds us of what we all fundamentally know, that we will ultimately be judged for our actions. If we trust God, we will have eternal life with Him, but if we trust our own way, that will lead to the anguish of eternal separation from God. This is true whether we choose self-centeredness, doing whatever we want in spite of God, or we choose self-righteousness, making up our own standards to justify ourselves to God. Both rebellion and religion take the Gospel out of the equation. Only reliance on Jesus' righteousness reconciles us to God.



1. What stands out to you in these verses?
2. How do we see God's righteousness in these verses?  
(He is the standard by which our works are judged; He holds everyone to the same standard without partiality)

**Have your Group look at the 2 statements below. Write them down so they can visually grasp the concepts.**

The first one is NOT the Gospel. It is works-based righteousness and we often twist the Gospel in our minds to believe this way of thinking.

1. I go to church SO THAT I am accepted by God.

Have people in your Group share other examples to fill in the blanks. (Ex. I don't curse so that I am accepted by God.)

This second sentence is different because it shows the righteousness we receive comes from God which stirs us to good works. These good works are fragrant offerings and not filthy rags because they are from faith and not for faith.

2. I am accepted by God THEREFORE I tithe.

Have people in your Group share other examples to fill in the blanks. (Ex. I am accepted by God therefore I serve others.)

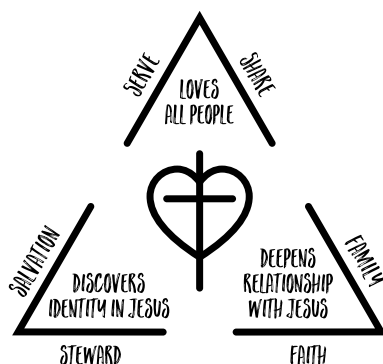
**Have someone read Romans 2:17-29 out loud.**

Here we see that the gospel applies not just to those who never heard of God, but also to those who grew up in religion. (The word "circumcision" is used to represent everything required by the law of God.) Paul shows that the religious person is just as unrighteous as the rebellious one. Trying to work our way to right standing with God is not just impossible, it's actually prideful. Only the righteousness of Jesus, credited to us when we trust Him, can fulfill the law.

3. Have you ever tried to rely on your own will to perfectly follow the law of God? How did that work out?  
(I felt prideful when I got it right, and like a failure when I blew it.)
4. Looking at verses 28-29, what does it mean that "circumcision is a matter of the heart"?  
(It's our faith that reconciles us to God.)
5. What would it look like to trust Jesus to reconcile you to God? How would that change your actions?  
(Allow an opportunity for anyone who has not made a decision to trust God to do so.)

## DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY ACTION STEP

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



It is so important to be able to communicate to others what the Gospel is and how it is not based on our works. Come to Share Your Faith Training to get better equipped about sharing your faith.

Saturday, February 24 // 8:00am-12:30pm  
at the San Pablo campus only  
Register at [coe22.com/shareyourfaith](http://coe22.com/shareyourfaith)

ESTABLISHED  
★ 2012 ★