



DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM CURRICULUM GUIDE WK 5: MAY 23 & 26

LEADER INFO:

Celebrate:

This past Sunday at Beach Baptism (419) people went public with their faith! How good is God that we got to celebrate that event with our family?

Share:

If anyone from your group was baptized, we would love to hear that story and see any pictures you have from the day. Please share them on the [Disciple Group Leader Facebook page](#) or email them to disciplegroups@coe22.com.

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Invite: Over the next three weekends, people not in a Disciple Group will have multiple opportunities to get connected and join their new Group. Sign up to serve after a service at your home Campus, and meet your next new member!

Serve: Summer time is a great time to gather as a Disciple Group outside of group time and serve in our community. Your whole Group may sign up to join others from Eleven22, and other churches, for #OneBodyJax Serve Day on Saturday July 13th.

Find out more at coe22.com/localoutreach

MEMORY VERSE: *Only fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you.* – **1 Samuel 12:24**

THIS WEEK'S READING PLAN:

Mon: 1 Samuel 12:1-25

Tues: Joshua 3-4:1-9, 2

Wed: Thessalonians 3:1-5

Thurs: Deuteronomy 7:1-9

Fri: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Sat: Hebrews 10:19-25



PROPHETS PRIESTS KINGS - WEEK 5: FAREWELL ADDRESS

THE POINT: REBELLION FEELS LIKE FREEDOM AND FUN BUT WILL ALWAYS LEAD TO DEATH AND BONDAGE. TRUE FREEDOM AND JOY ARE ONLY FOUND IN FOLLOWING JESUS.

- JD GREER

TEXTS: 1 SAMUEL 12:1-25

TEACHING & DIALOGUE

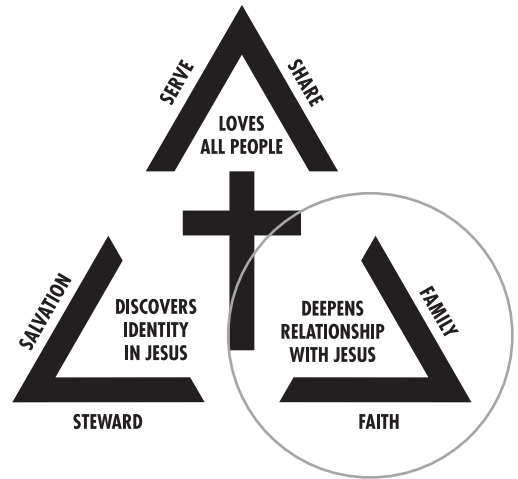
Have someone read 1 Samuel 12:1-15 out loud.

In Samuel's farewell address to the Israelites, he calls attention to their recurring cycle where they forget the Lord and forsake Him through rebellion. They were prone to the influence of the nations around them, as reflected in their request for a king and following after other gods.

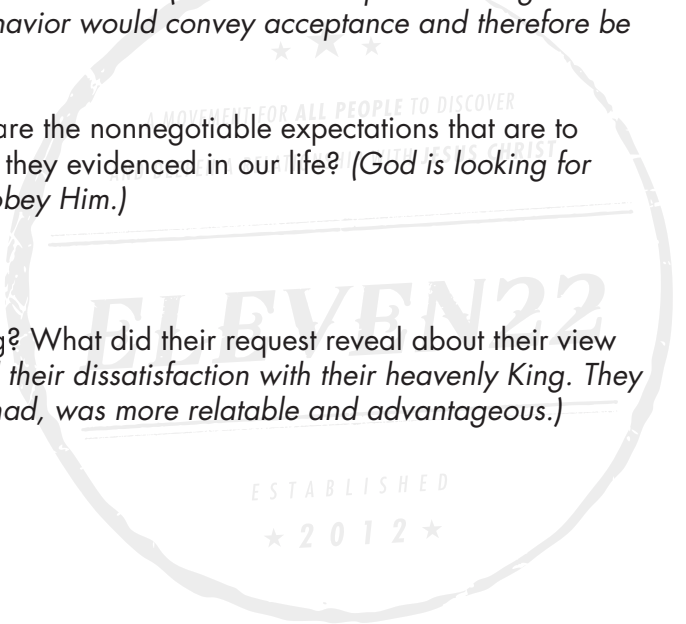
1. How is Samuel being a good leader and loving his people well? *(He is seeking to hold the Israelites accountable to God's expectations of them by reminding them of God's truth and character. As a leader, he has proven integrity. Samuel is loving them well by persevering with them and not ignoring or tolerating their behavior.)*
2. As much as Samuel was pointing out the pattern of behavior from the nation of Israel, how was the Lord's pattern of behavior also reflected in these passages? *(Even in the midst of Israel's unfaithfulness, God still responded with faithfulness. He relentlessly pursues His rebellious children.)*
3. How is God trying to turn His people back to Him as evidenced in the recounting of events by Samuel? How would it be unloving of God to tolerate their wickedness? *(God uses discipline to bring about the repentance of the Israelites. Ignoring sinful behavior would convey acceptance and therefore be unloving.)*
4. What is God looking for from His people? What are the nonnegotiable expectations that are to be reflected from a holy relationship and how are they evidenced in our life? *(God is looking for cooperation. He expects them to fear, serve and obey Him.)*

Have someone read 1 Samuel 12:16-25 out loud.

5. Do you think Israel was wrong in asking for a king? What did their request reveal about their view of God? *(Their desire for an earthly ruler revealed their dissatisfaction with their heavenly King. They thought that a human king, like the other nations had, was more relatable and advantageous.)*



A life in Christ is one that is continuing to grow in faith, growing in our view of who God is. God's holiness becomes more and more clear, and our awareness of our sin becomes clearer too. Recognizing this faith is fueled by worship, word and prayer drives us toward God and not away in spite of our growing awareness of just how sinful we really are, and this is just how Jesus wants it.



6. How are God's actions trying to teach the Israelites the proper view of fear for their life? How is the Israelites perspective of fear evidenced in their request for a king and therefore different from God's intended purpose of it? Use Exodus 20:18-20 for insight. *(God desires for His people to fear Him, as in feeling awe of Him and reverent respect, which in turn would keep them from sinning. It would overshadow any human fears because of the power and glory evidenced by God would give His people confidence in Him.)*
7. What earthly props/idols do we resort to rather than depend upon Jesus to meet our needs? It is easy to fault the Israelites yet we have just as many ways we use to seek guidance or comfort. *(Israel may have resorted to an earthly king to rule over them but we can look to government, social norms, friends/family to determine our direction or satisfy our needs.)*

ACTION STEP

Consider any areas of rebellion that keep recurring for you. Are you remorseful or repentant over these areas because only one has the power to break the cycles? In what ways are they hindering God being the One thing that drives everything in your life?

This week write down the things in your life you **MUST** repent of immediately. Prayerfully ask God to reveal the thing you most need to repent of, and are ignoring, then write it down too. Come to group next week ready to confess to just one person.

