

DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM CURRICULUM GUIDE Advent: WEEK 3, Waiting December 16 – December 19, 2021

LEADER NOTES

Save the Date Coach & Leader Gathering | Saturday January 15, 2022 Go to <u>coe22.com/coachandleader</u> to <u>RSVP yes or no</u>.

End of Fall Trimester – Our fall trimester officially ended on December 12. We're asking ALL group leaders to take a few minutes to give us your <u>feedback and recommit</u> for the spring trimester.

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS - Love God by loving #onemore and one another!

New Leader Training | Sundays December 19 & January 2 at 1PM

Where is God calling you to take a next step of faith? If you're ready to take that next step by leading a disciple group, please save the above dates on your calendar and fill out the New Leader Interest Form found at <u>coe22.com/newleader</u>.

Discover Eleven22 | After Every Christmas Eve Service on December 23 & 24

God created us for community. We invite you to take a next step of faith by joining us for Discover Eleven22 to learn about ways to deepen your relationship with Jesus and get connected to the faith family. Learn more at <u>coe22.com/discover</u>.

New Christmas Week Worship Services | <u>coe22.com/christmas</u> | #Onemore Opportunity

Thursday December 23 – Christmas Eve service at 7:22pm (except Jesup) Friday December 24 – Christmas Eve service at 3:30pm (except Jesup), 5:22pm and 7:22pm (except Jesup) Sunday December 26 – Special ONLINE ONLY Services (no in person services) <u>coe22.com/online</u>

THIS WEEK'S READING PLAN: coe22.com/readingplan

Sunday – Philippians 4:4-9 Monday – Mark 4:35-41 Tuesday – Romans 12:9-21 Wednesday – Philippians 2:1-11 Thursday – Philippians 2:12-18 Friday – Ephesians 4 Saturday – 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

RELATIONAL CONNECT & CHECK-IN:

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR LIFE: (Learn about, encourage and pray for one another.)

- What is your favorite Christmas tradition and why?
- What are your Christmas plans and how might the group be praying for you?

Advent - Waiting

The Point: To wait faithfully for the return of Jesus (and for all things in our lives), God gives us seven things.

SERMON TEXT: Revelation 21-22

Discussion Questions

DISCOVER

Have someone read Matthew 24:14 & Acts 1:6-8

1. In what areas of your life are you having trouble waiting? (Answers may vary.)

2. What are the seven ways that God gives us, as shown in Revelation 21-22, to help us wait well? (God gives us: the Spirit-breathed, trustworthy and true promises in His Word, the weapon of worship, the urgency of His purpose which He left with us as the Great Commission, the pursuit of holiness, the support and community of His church, the gift of prayer, and finally, His grace.)

3. Which of those seven ways stood out to you most to help you wait with faithfulness and obedience in your circumstances? (Answers may vary.)

4. In what ways could your season of waiting possibly be a gift to you? (Answers may vary – Leaders: ask follow-up questions.)

DEEPEN

Week 3 of Advent is about Waiting. Prepare and wait for the baby Jesus, and prepare and wait for the return of Jesus. Pastor Adam asked, "What if waiting wasn't a grind, but a gift? What if it wasn't to be endured, but embraced?" Perhaps when we are struggling to wait patiently, we could instead wait faithfully.

Have someone read Hebrews 10:23-25

5. What barriers stop you from waiting faithfully? (Answers may vary. Often bitterness, impatience, self-centeredness and cynicism are robbing you from the gift of waiting well.)

6. How are you prioritizing prayer and time in the Word, during this season of your life? Is it leading to more or less peace in your heart, mind, soul and strength? (Answers may vary.)

7. Where is God calling you to deepen your relationship with Him through worship, evangelism, pursuing holiness, or His church? (Answers may vary.)

8. Jesus is coming back. How should His certain return affect our attitude toward the things of this world? Our sin? Our mission to the nations? (Answers may vary.)

<u>ACTION STEPS</u>

A Disciple...Loves All People, Discovers Identity in Jesus, Deepens Relationship with Jesus.

Leader Read: To wait faithfully for the return of Jesus (and for all things in our lives), God gives us seven things: His Word, worship, an urgent purpose, a pursuit of holiness, His church, prayer, and grace by faith.

This Week: Prayerfully select one of the seven ways shared by Pastor Adam to purposefully keep at the top of your mind and heart this holiday season when you find yourself growing weary in the waiting. Share which one you chose with your group.

As a group, we're going to partner up and pray for each other's waiting. One person answers a question, while the other specifically prays for that ONE thing, then switch. Here's the question: What part of your life do you need Jesus to step into as you wait?

Take a Next Step: Find a quiet place this week and talk to God about the following:

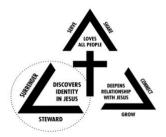
- Thankfulness to God for the tools to help you wait well.
- All areas of your life where you feel like you're waiting.
- Why are you waiting and what is God trying to do in the middle of the waiting?
- What step of faith is He asking you to take while you are waiting?

Remember, if you ever feel alone in your period of waiting, pray this: "Come, Lord Jesus, into _____. Jesus be in the middle of _____."

Additional Resources:

- Topical Resources: Learn more about an area of your life where God wants to transform into His likeness at <u>coe22.com/resources</u> (Marriage, Spiritual Disciplines, Gospel & Race, Generosity, etc.).
- **Spiritual Giftings:** Learn more about how God has gifted you, equipped you and is calling you to be a part of the church body by taking a spiritual gifts assessment at <u>coe22.com/spiritualgifts</u>. Learn more about your assessment results learn through <u>Eleven22's Spiritual Gifts document</u>.

(Note: You'll need to log in or create an account on the spiritual gifts page to take the Spiritual Gifts assessment.)



Go to <u>coe22.com/resources</u> and click "Download Tool" to download or print a discipleship journey tool with questions for you to ask yourself and others. Please share link and directions with others in your group.