



DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM GUIDE

James - Week 9: Comparison Trap/The Gram Kills
August 3 - 6, 2023

LEADER NOTES: **Fall trimester:** 8/28-12/10 **New Leader Trainings:** 8/6, 12/10 in person and 8/7, 12/18 on Zoom. **Coach and Leader gathering at Baymeadows on 8/14 and at all other campuses on 8/21.** [Click here to RSVP.](#)

Leader Podcast Now on Spotify: You can listen to every episode of [Leading Well in 7 Minutes or Less on Spotify.](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS – *What's your next step? Stay informed and connected to ALL the things God is doing in and through The Church of Eleven22 at coe22.com/news.*

Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Night•August 14•7pm•Fleming Island: Join us as we hear from our ministry partners from our Anti-Human Trafficking Initiative. You'll learn about their ministries and how you can get involved. Please do not bring children under 18 due to the sensitive nature of the discussions. [Click here to register.](#)

Elder-Led Prayer•August 15•6:30pm•Fleming Island•Jesup•San Pablo•Online: Saturated season kicks off with a night of worship and Word, led by our elders. This is an intimate event for our church family to come together, hear from our elders and prepare for Saturated 2023. Childcare will be available for 0-5th grade.

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

Share Wins, Praises and Prayers: Where did you see God move this week?

The Point: Comparison kills. When you see yourself the way God sees you, then His love for you will be more than enough.

SERMON TEXT: *James 1:5, 3:13-18; Philippians 2:3; Matthew 11:28; Mark 4:35-41*

Discussion Questions

LEADERS: There is no pressure to get through all the questions; we suggest prayerfully planning your choices for your group. Your leadership of sharing and questioning will determine how deep your group goes with each question.

- **What stood out to you in the sermon this week?**
- **Read James 1:5 and 3:13-18. What did God reveal to you in the scriptures this week, maybe for the first time?**
- **Discover:** What's the difference between knowledge and wisdom? (*Knowledge is asking God, "What should I do?" Wisdom is asking God, "Who am I to become?" Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Most of us don't get "burning bush" moments. We pray, guess and go. Trust God. Do whatever He tells you to and trust HIM with the consequences.*)
Deepen: Share a time you've received wisdom from God or a time that you had to pray, guess, and go. How did the outcome shape your faith?
- **Read James 3:13-16.**
Discover: Where in your life do you struggle with comparison? (*Warning signs include... You're tempted to brag or lie about yourself. You can't celebrate other people's wins. You think, "You didn't get it right, God." You have difficulty appreciating God's blessings in your life. Envy may even lead you to think, "Not only do I want what you have, I'd rather you not have it."*)
Deepen: Explain how "comparison" is a lose-lose scenario. (*Comparison can only lead to pride - at least I'm better than that guy, or condemnation - I'm not good enough. Comparison is earthly: it keeps your view horizontal, without your eye on the LORD. It treats people like commodities to be used and cast aside. Comparison is unspiritual. Comparison is demonic: the enemy only wants to kill, steal, and destroy.*)
- **Discover:** Where in your life is there evidence of bitter jealousy and selfish ambition? What fuels that? (*You may find that the same areas where you struggle with comparison are where you struggle with jealousy and selfish ambition.*)
Read James 3:17-18
Deepen: How does your relationship with Jesus help you avoid and escape jealousy and selfishness? (*If comparison kills, worship and gratitude cures. When we worship and express our gratitude to Jesus it's almost impossible to be jealous or selfish at the same time.*)
- **Read Philippians 2:3**
Discover: Who comes to mind when you read this verse? (*Whether it's someone who does this well or someone you should treat better, ask the Holy Spirit to help you in your relationship with them this week.*)
Deepen: How can you live out **Philippians 2:3** in your daily life? (*A great example of this is how we treat the bride at her wedding. It's not about you. It's about her. Practice treating your family, friends and others as if they're the person you most admire most.*)

ACTION STEP

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

Do you spend more time and energy sowing in gratitude or complaint and comparison?

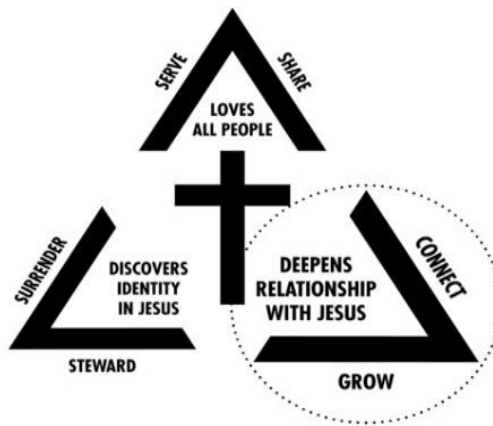
Make a gratitude list (one thing for each year of your age) and spend time praying and thanking God for the things on your list.

Additional Resources:

- **RightNow Media:** Find *an unending supply of resources* by signing up for a FREE RightNow Media account. Go to coe22.com/rightnowmedia or text “RightNow” to 441122.

(Note: You'll need to login or create an account to view RightNow Media content.)

- Details on the 10:10 Life are available at coe22.com/1010life.



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