



# DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM GUIDE

Galatians Week 3: Approval of Man  
April 18 & 21, 2024

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**LEADER NOTES: New Leader Trainings:** May 19 in-person and May 20 on Zoom; **Spring trimester:** January 22–May 6; **Summer trimester:** June 3–July 28; **Fall trimester:** 8/19–12/8.

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

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**NEW: Equipping You to Fight for the Unborn, a 10:10 Life Seminar: Friday, May 17, 7pm, San Pablo campus:** Kyle Thompson, founder of the podcast “Undaunted Life,” will teach us on how to engage the most common pro-abortion arguments. Our local mission partners will be there to discuss next steps and help you get involved in the unborn initiative of the 10:10 Life. [Click here for more information and to sign up.](#)

**10:10 Life Prison Ministry serve from home opportunity:** Join us in partnering with Kairos Outside to bless women impacted by incarceration. Download and color pages depicting God's love and beauty and include a prayer or note on the back. **Coloring sheets need to be received by April 25.** [Click here for more information.](#)

**First Responders BBQ & Carwash, Mandarin Campus, Saturday, April 27 from 10am-3pm:** Serve those who serve us - the first responders and their families. It's a great opportunity for your disciple group to serve together. There are multiple time slots to choose from. [Click here for more information and to sign up.](#)

**Beach Baptism Classes, Now through April 28, after every service at every campus (select opportunities for online Zoom classes):** 20-minute class to learn about baptism, ask questions and get ready for this next step in your discipleship journey. [Click here](#) for more information.

**Serve at Beach Baptism, May 5, Hannah Park:** There are many areas where you can serve and help hundreds of people get baptized. [Click here before April 28 to sign up.](#)

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THIS WEEK'S READING PLAN: [coe22.com/readingplan](http://coe22.com/readingplan)

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

**Sermon Text:** *Psalm 118; Proverbs 29:25; Matthew 10:26-33, 11:28-30, 25:14-30; Galatians 1:10; Philipians 4:11; 2 Timothy 1:7*

## 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.

- **Read *Galatians 1:10*. What stood out to you in the sermon this week and what did God reveal to you in the Scriptures, maybe for the first time?**
- **Discover:** In what situations and with what people are you most tempted to seek the approval of man over God?  
**Deepen:** What decision, conversation, or action step are you delaying because of what others might say or think about you? What can you change so you can focus on what God's calling you to do?
- **Discover:** With social media it's easier than ever to compare. Comparison kills freedom and contentment. **How?** *(Comparison leads us to the sin of envy or of pride and condemnation of others. Social media use is correlated with increases in depression, isolation and suicidal ideation. How much time are you spending on social media and comparing your real life with the filtered, highlight reels of others? What impact is it having on your relationship with God, with others and in your life?)*  
**Deepen:** What can you do to decrease how much you participate in comparison?
- **Share a time where you took a break from social media? What were the results?**
- **The reality is, the approval of God can't be sought or earned, only received. Yet, Paul talks about seeking the approval of God. What does he mean then, by seeking the approval of God, and how does that free you?** *(Through the blood of Christ as the propitiation of your sins, you already have the love and approval of God. However, the gospel isn't anti-effort, it's just anti-earning. You should put effort into acting like, and treating everyone like, you know you have the full approval and love of God through your faith in Jesus. This belief frees you to walk in humble confidence.)*
- **The book of Galatians is about the freedom found in Jesus. Yet, Paul also says he can be content in all situations because of his identity as a bond servant of Jesus. How can both of those things be true at the same time? Read *Philippians 4:10-13* and *Romans 1:1*.** *(Paul called himself a servant, and in some translations, a slave of Christ. The Bible is not pro-slavery, Paul is talking about being a bond servant of Christ. Through serving Jesus, Paul is free from sin and from the approval of man. Are you a slave to what people think? If so, it's because you don't really know and believe what God thinks about you. We all serve a master, and no one can serve two. So, what master are you serving? When you hand your keys to contentment to anyone except Jesus, you'll always be disappointed.)*

## ACTION STEP

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

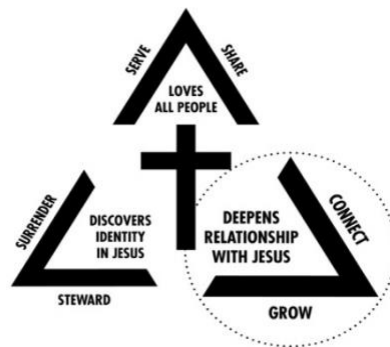
1) *Proverbs 29:25* says, “The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe.” Do an internet search to find other scriptures to help you when you are struggling with the approval of man. Memorize your favorite one and share it with the group next week.

2) In your own life and family, how can you set up guard rails around entertainment & social media to allow you to walk in freedom and prevent you from falling into the comparison trap? Create a plan to implement in the next week.

- **RightNow Media:** Find *an unending supply of resources* by signing up for a FREE RightNow Media account. Go to [coe22.com/rightnowmedia](http://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](http://coe22.com/1010life).



*Go to [coe22.com/resources/discipleship-journey/](http://coe22.com/resources/discipleship-journey/) 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.*