



DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM GUIDE

Galatians Week 4: Why Make It Difficult?
April 25 & 28, 2024

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](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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.](#)

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

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

The Point: Why would we make it difficult for those who are turning to God?

Sermon Text: *Galatians 2:1-10; Acts 14:21-15:19*

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 2:1-10* and *Acts 14:21-15:19*. 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?**
- **What are some church traditions that have impacted your view of the character of God or your view of the church or church people?** *(Many believers have experienced pain from people in religious settings, and Christ offers freedom and redemption from that pain. As we release any manmade traditions and negative impacts caused by that, God wants to use the pain you've experienced to lead you toward repentance and/or forgiveness so YOU can be free, and even use your experience to minister to others.)*
- **What are some church traditions that might make it difficult for others to feel like they are welcomed in the church?** *(Pastor Joby shared a few stories about wearing a robe in a church or feeling out of place in a different denomination and the discomfort there, but there may be church traditions that we as believers are holding that are making our visitors feel equally uncomfortable. If there is a person or group of people you would have trouble celebrating if they came to Christ, consider where you may have some hidden or unconscious beliefs that don't line up with the gospel.)*
- **How do we balance Christian unity without compromising on truth?** *(We have discussed the heart of the gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-4) over the last few weeks, which defines the non-negotiables for our Christian faith (Salvation is through faith in Christ's death, burial, and resurrection alone). There are many areas where we can and should compromise when our personal preferences or convenience are at stake. The gospel is convicting on its own apart from our human parameters around it, yet God's grace in His kindness and sovereignty does not demand conformity; that is part of the freedom that Christ offers us.)*
- **What authorities have influence in your life that is shaping you?** *(Everyone is submitting to someone or something – a parent, a boss, a social media influencer, a news network, or any other niche that you allow to influence your life and thinking. The people, things, or ideas that we submit our time, talent, treasure, or temple to reflect what we truly believe in.)*
- **Authority is often seen as restrictive and negative in our Western culture, but Scripture shows us Jesus models submission to authority (*John 5:19&30*). How does submission to authority as believers actually lead us to freedom and not away from it?** *(Paul chose to put himself under the authority of the local church leaders and meet face-to-face with those who represented the conflict instead of creating deeper problems through gossip or "preaching" against them (Colossians 2:2). Godly submission always precedes godly authority. We can recognize godly authority when they lead with grace and not control. God develops and advances His kingdom through order.)*

ACTION STEP

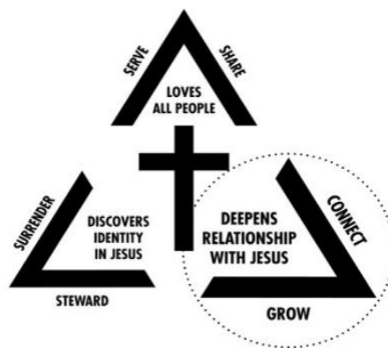
A Disciple...Loves All People, Discovers Identity in Jesus, Deepens Relationship with Jesus

Both Paul and Peter were entrusted by God to preach to specific groups v.7. Titus was brought by Paul as an example of freedom who embraced Christ and was transformed without any of the Jewish traditions of the day. If you don't already have one, pray and ask God to reveal the "One More" with whom He has entrusted you to share the gospel, and begin praying for them daily.

- **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/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.