



1825 DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM

CURRICULUM GUIDE

Stand Firm – Week 4

November 6-9, 2025

LEADER INFO:

- Group Check In went out last week. Please take a few minutes to respond if you have not already done so.
- Leading Well in 7 Minutes or Less – Listen ALL episodes for free on Spotify or Apple.
- Fall trimester ends December 13th.
- See end of Action Step for Alternative Wrap Up Idea

Announcements

SAVE THE DATE: 1825 Friendsgiving | Sunday, November 23rd | 6pm | San Pablo – Aud A

Short Term Mission Trips are LIVE!

As disciple-making disciples, we each play a personal role in ministering to God's people. In John 20:21, Jesus said, "...As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." So, just as God sent his first and best in Jesus Christ, we are to respond by bringing our first and best to God and to go, whether that is in our neighborhood or to the ends of the earth.

- 1825 Poland A | March 20-31, 2026 <https://coe22.servicereef.com/events/the-church-of-eleven22-3/1825-poland-a-2026>
- 1825 Thailand A | June 2-15, 2026 <https://coe22.servicereef.com/events/the-church-of-eleven22-3/1825-thailand-a-2026>
- 1825 Costa Rica D | July 13-19, 2026 <https://coe22.servicereef.com/events/the-church-of-eleven22-3/1825-costa-rica-d-2026>
- 1825 Costa Rica E | July 13-19, 2026 <https://coe22.servicereef.com/events/the-church-of-eleven22-3/1825-costa-rica-e-2026>

Additional recommended resources to go deeper on our Fourth Sunday topics now available [Here](#).

Subscribe to be notified when new content is added!

1825 DG Fall – WEEK 13

The Point: True strength is not found in Position, Possessions, or Power but in the PERSON and Work of Jesus.

Sermon Text: Proverbs 24:17; Matthew 20:17-28; Luke 11:20-22; John 13:1-20; 19:11; Acts 11:24; Philippians 2:1-11; 2 Corinthians 12:10

Connect If you spend the first few weeks in the connect portion more than curriculum questions that is ok!!! The goal is not to stay here, but remember:

1825 DISCIPLE GROUPS ARE VALUE-DRIVEN, NOT CURRICULUM DRIVEN

Names Matter.

- **Action Step check-in:** Whether you completed it or not – What did you learn about God? What did you learn about yourself?
 - **Icebreaker:** If you could pick one heroic “strength moment” from your life to play on a giant screen every time you walked into a room, what would the clip be? (Brave, dumb, accidental, impressive... all categories welcome.)
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DISCOVER & DEEPEN

(The goal is to grow in our relationship with Christ and each other. It is ok if you don't cover every question.)

Read Matthew 20:17-28

1. **What is ONE thought that stuck with you from this week's sermon? Why?**
2. **When you hear “be strong” in today's world, what images or expectations come to mind? How does Jesus redefine strength in a way that challenges that?**
3. **Sabbath isn't just stopping—it's surrendering. What does that mean?**
4. **What tends to feel harder for you: slowing down, trusting God to provide, or letting go of control? Why do you think that is?**
5. **Think of a time exhaustion (not lack of desire) led you toward a decision you regret. What might it look like to reorder life so you're resting *with* God, not just crashing *after* life?**
6. **Endurance isn't avoided pain, it's faithful presence *in* it. Where do you feel tempted to step away from responsibility when things get costly or uncomfortable?**
7. **Proverbs 24:16 talks about getting back up. Who taught you resilience—intentionally or unintentionally? What part of their story marked you?**
8. **Humility isn't thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less. What's one area where you're tempted to promote yourself or grab the reins instead of trusting God to place you?**
9. **Jesus modeled strength by serving. When have you been served in a way that changed you more than advice ever could?**
10. **Who is one person in your life who would feel the weight of God's love this week if you quietly, practically served them without expecting anything back?**

11.If your life truly reflected a “sabbathed, persevering, humble, serving” strength— what would actually look different tomorrow, not just feel inspiring tonight?

ACTION STEP

In light of your answers tonight, what is one step God is calling you to take this week?

Sanctification and spiritual growth are not linear, but they always involve a step of obedience. Some will have the same next step week after week as they grow in spiritual disciplines and learn to walk in obedience. Others will have a next step that can be completed within the week.

The more you can lead individuals in making their next step SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, timely) the easier it is to walk out accountability.

Example:

1825: “My next step is to read my bible more.”

Leader: “How many times this next week do you want to read your bible? When will you do it? How long? What will you read?”

1825: “I want to read when I wake up three mornings for 20 minutes.”

Have a group member record next steps and share in your Group Me.

Next week check in. How did it go? Whether you accomplished the goal or not: What did you learn about God? Yourself?

Alternative Wrap Up Idea: Move big idea to awareness to action.

Step 1 — Hold it (1 minute)

- Everyone puts something *in their hands right now* that has weight—keys, phone, water bottle, shoe if necessary. Nothing dramatic, just tangible.
- *Say something like:*
“You came in carrying something. Some of it you know. Some of it you don’t. Strength isn’t pretending it’s light. Strength is choosing what you do with the weight.”

Pause.

Step 2 — Name it (2 minutes, silent reflection)

- *Have them quietly answer this in their head or on a note:*
 - What is one weight you’re carrying right now—responsibility, habit, pressure, fear, someone’s expectations, someone’s hurt, your own pride, your own exhaustion?
 - Is this something God asked you to carry, or something you grabbed trying to prove strength?

No sharing yet. Just honesty.

Step 3 — Exchange it (2 minutes, whispered prayer)

- Invite them to flip their item into their other hand as a physical sign of surrender.
 - Prompt:
“Jesus doesn’t ask for the appearance of strength. He asks for the exchange. Offer Him the weight. Then ask for the strength He defines as sabbathed, persevering, humble, serving.”
 - They can whisper a sentence prayer:
“I give You this. Give me Your strength for what You actually called me to carry.”

Step 4 — Put strength to work (3 minutes, pairs)

- Turn to one person and answer in 30 seconds each:
 - What’s one small, unglamorous act of strength I can choose this week?
(Examples they might say: apologize first, go to bed on time, tell the truth, open the Bible before opening socials, do a chore before being asked, show up even when tired.)

No fixing each other. No advice. Just naming it out loud like a vow.

Step 5 — Close together (15-second leader prayer)

- Short and steady:
 - “Jesus, make us the kind of strong that looks like You. Strength that kneels. Strength that serves. Strength that stays. Carry what we cannot. Steady what we can. And make us faithful with the weight You actually gave us. Amen.”

Prayer

How can we pray for you and your walk with Jesus? Close in Prayer.

While we are happy to pray for all things, we want to grow in authenticity by asking and sharing how we can pray for one another as we discover and deepen in our relationship with Christ and take next steps of obedience.

*****TIP:** Provide index cards. Have each member write their prayer requests on a card with their name and place in the middle of the circle. At the end of group each person selects a card to pray over for the next week. Encourage members to reach out to the individual they are praying for during the week. Mixed groups: keep guys and girls cards separate. Guys pray and reach out to guys. Girls pray and reach out to girls.
