



DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM GUIDE

Matthew Season 3: Fear to Faith
Episode 2: Faith or Fear?
March 26 & 29, 2026
Pastor Joby Martin

LEADER NOTES – *Leading Well in 7 Minutes or Less* - New Episode: *S4E3: How to Help Your Group Grow Spiritually.* Listen to ALL episodes for free on [Spotify](#) or [Apple](#).

2026 - Spring trimester: 1/5–5/11 **Summer trimester:** 6/1–7/27 **Fall trimester:** 8/17–12/7

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Passion Service, Tuesday, March 31, 5:22, 7:22pm, Arlington, Baymeadows, Fleming Island, Jesup, Mandarin, North Jax, Orange Park, Palatka, San Pablo, St. Augustine, St. Johns and Online: We can't fully celebrate the resurrected Jesus without first meditating on His suffering on the cross. Join us as we reflect on the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

Easter Services: [Click here](#) to find the Easter Service dates and times at all our campuses. Invite your ONE MORE.

NEW - Join the fight against human trafficking: For a volunteer interest night at Arize Together on April 21 [click here to register](#). Or on April 14 gather and write letters of encouragement to survivors just beginning their journey of healing. [Click here to register](#).

THIS WEEK'S READING PLAN: Download our app for [Apple](#) or [Android](#). Click the "Daily" icon at the bottom of the app for our daily Bible reading plan.

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

Action Step Review: Last week's action step: "Pair up with someone in group right now and make a plan to pray for each other's miracle need outside of group, as James 5:13-16 says." How did God answer your prayers? What did you learn about God? About yourself?

The Point: Often times the storm IN you is greater than the storm that you are IN. Jesus can calm them both because HE has overcome our storms.

Sermon Text: *Psalms 22; Matthew 6:25-34, 8:18-34; John 16:33; Romans 5:8, 8:28; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; Hebrews 11, 12:1-2; James 1:2-4*

Discussion Questions

Leaders: Please use the questions in the curriculum to facilitate discussion of the sermon and the Scriptures. **But there's no need to answer every question.** The goal is to get your group members talking more than you and to get them going deeper.

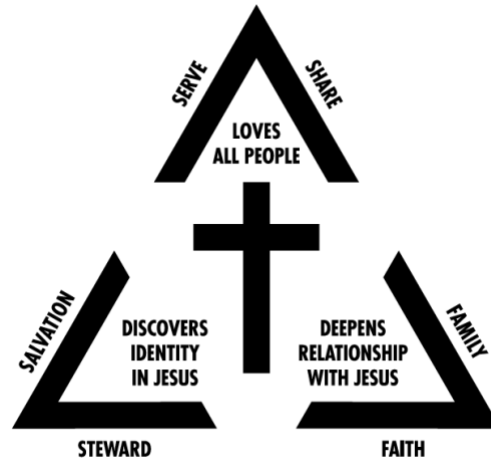
- **Read Matthew 8:18-34. What stood out to you this week in the sermon, in the Scriptures and what God revealed to you about Himself?**
- **Discover:** Read Matthew 8:18-20. Discuss what Jesus meant by his reply. *(Following Jesus costs everything. He is not an "add-on" to your life. You are called to die to yourself and be crucified with Jesus. But the rewards are you get Him, He gives you life, you're set free, you get the abundant life now and eternity with Jesus!)*
Deepen: If you are following Jesus, what has it cost you?
- **Read Matthew 8:21-22. One of the disciples was essentially saying, "I'll follow you, but first..." What "but firsts" do you have that are keeping you from fully surrendering and following Jesus? (Here are a few, "but firsts:" make some money, finish dating, having kids, get my degree, live the wild college life, pursue my career... Following Jesus gives you Him and the abundant life! Read Matthew 6:33.)**
- **Discover:** Read Matthew 8:23-27. What are some reasons Jesus might have been asleep during the storm? *(Jesus isn't bothered at all by the storm. He knows His Father is sovereign and has the whole world in His hands. Christ being at peace with a situation does not indicate a lack of compassion for you. The amount of peace you experience will be directly proportionate to how much trust you have in God.)*
Deepen: The disciples were NOT perishing, but they felt like they were about to. Share a time your feelings led you to believe your situation was worse than it was, until you turned to Jesus. *(Fear is the opposite of faith. Look into the future. Who do you see in control? If it's you and your circumstances, you will experience more fear. If you believe that God is in control, you will have more faith.)*
- **Read Matthew 6:25-34. Pastor Joby preached that when you're in a storm you should look up, look around, look forward and look ahead. How do you look up and practice the pursuit of the presence of Jesus? (If you're not careful, you become a practical atheist. You believe God spoke the world into existence and Jesus came out of the grave, but He can't handle YOU and YOUR problems.)**
- **Discuss the reasons it's important to look around when you're in a storm. (1. To see God at work in others. 2. Matt carriers... shield of faith. 3. Show me your friends and I'll show you your future. Read Proverbs 13:20.)**
- **Look ahead of the storm. What might Jesus be teaching you and preparing you for? (Read James 1:2-4, 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 and Romans 8:28.)**
- **Look back at a storm you've come through. What did Jesus do for you in that storm that can carry you through your next one? (Read Romans 5:8 and John 16:33. Look back at the death of Jesus. What looked like the greatest storm of all was actually the greatest moment of redemption. He is risen!)**

Action Step: Identify one area of your life where you've been saying, "Jesus, I'll follow you, but first..." Write it down, confess it to God, and intentionally surrender that area to Him in prayer this week.

Your Discipleship Journey

- **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.)



Go to coe22.com/growthtrack, scroll down to “What’s Growth Track?” and click the words, “Discipleship Triangle” 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.