



DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM GUIDE

Stand Firm Week 2: Belt of Truth
July 18 & 21, 2024

LEADER NOTES: Summer trimester: June 3–July 28; Fall trimester: August 19–December 8. **New Leader Trainings:** August 11 at every campus, August 19 via Zoom.

Be aware of the intensity of this sermon series and how the idea of spiritual warfare will land differently on each of your group members. Our beliefs about Satan and demons are greatly influenced by our upbringing and churches we have attended. Beware of group members falling into one of two extremes. 1. You don't believe in Satan or demons or that we are at war at all. 2. You see the devil and demons around every corner.

New Episode of *Leading Well in 7 Minutes or Less* podcast: How to discern the Holy Spirit's leading in your life, ministry, work and relationships. You can listen to every episode of the podcast for free on [Spotify](#) or [Apple](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS: We'd love to hear about your disciple group experience. Please take a few minutes to provide feedback in the anonymous survey by clicking this link: [2024 Disciple Groups Survey](#) (Leaders, please share this link with everyone in your group.)

Help Our First Responders: Your group can "adopt a station" by sponsoring a local firehouse or police substation. You are asked to touch base with them four to six times a year, pray for them and with them, and provide gift baskets twice a year. Contact greg.farah@coe22.com for more information.

Summer Serve Opportunities: Share the hope of the gospel in the Jacksonville area. There are countless opportunities for you and your family to serve alongside our ministry partners in the city or from the comfort of your home. Click coe22.com/localmission to learn more and signup to serve.

The Point: Truth is not merely an idea that lines up with reality. Truth is a person that created that reality. To know HIM is to know truth.

THIS WEEK'S READING PLAN: Download our app for [Apple](#) and [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?

Sermon Text: *Isaiah 59:17; John 8:28-43; 14:6; Romans 7; 12:1-2; Ephesians 6:10-14; 1 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Peter 1:16-21*

Discussion Questions

Leaders: Please make sure you get to the action step every week. Action Step: Identify the lie from the enemy that impacts you the most. Write down the scriptures of truth you can use to fight that lie. Pick one of those scriptures and memorize it this week.

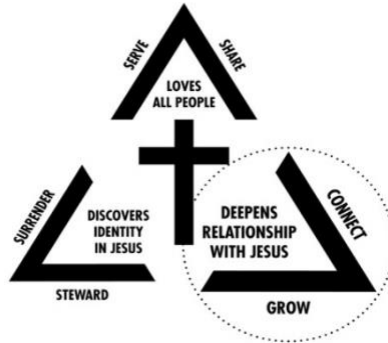
- **Read *Ephesians 6:14, John 8:31-47; 14:6*.** What stood out to you in the sermon this week and what did God reveal to you in the Scriptures, maybe for the first time?
- **Discover:** 1) What does it mean to put on the belt of truth? 2) Why is the "belt of truth" mentioned first among the pieces of the armor of God? (See *Ephesians 6:14* and *Isaiah 59:17*. A belt is worn at all times. It wraps around our center, holds things together, provides a firm foundation for the other parts of armor, "fastens" or buckles so it won't slip off, allows you to move with speed and agility, and houses the sword. Read *John 14:6* and *8:28-32*. To put on the belt of TRUTH is to wrap yourself in Jesus. Jesus is the Truth, and the truth will set you free.)
Deepen: How do you "fasten the belt of truth" and wrap yourself in Jesus? (You read and believe and "draw close" to the Bible. The bible is not merely a collection of true things about history and theology. It's more than that. Read *1 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Peter 1:16-21*. Listen to worship music, Christian podcasts and sermons.)
- **Discover:** What's the difference between "practicing sin" and "struggling" with sin? ("Practicing sin" means you're committing habitual, unrepentant sin. In essence, you're saying, "I understand your teachings and commands, Jesus, but I'm going to do what I want." If you try to redefine sin, don't abide in His word and try to manipulate it to fit your life, then Jesus is not your Lord. You are a slave to sin. That's different than following Jesus and surrendering your life to Him. You will still "struggle" with sin, but the Holy Spirit convicts you when you sin, and you repent. See *Romans 7*.)
Deepen: In what areas of your life are you redefining your sin to rationalize it—twisting God's Word or ignoring His Truth to fit your life/desires? (Satan twists God's word. The first words attributed to the enemy in the bible are, "Did God really say?" You are called to bring your sin into the light, confess it and repent.)
- **Read *John 8:42-43*.** According to Jesus you cannot divorce God the Father from God the Son. To deny Jesus is to deny God. Share how you would respond to someone who is offended when you say Jesus is the only way to God. (Jesus claims the most exclusive AND radically inclusive way to God. It's exclusive because Jesus is the only one way to come to the Father. (Read *John 14:6*.) It's also radically inclusive because everyone's invited, everyone gets in the same way (no head starts or Groupons) and the price has already been paid by the blood of Jesus.)
- **Discover:** Our enemy is a liar, trying to get us to doubt the Word of God, the worth of God, and the work of God. Take out your Stand Firm newspaper ([click here to read it on our app](#)) and look through the "lies and truth" section. Which lies do you sometimes believe?
Deepen: Starting today, how will you combat those lies with the Truth of God—girding up your loins for the battle?

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.)

- 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.