



DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM GUIDE

Stand Firm Week 4: Shoes of the Gospel of Peace
August 1 & 4, 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.

Continue to be equipped to lead your group: You can listen to every episode of our *Leading Well in 7 Minutes or Less* podcast for free on [Spotify](#) or [Apple](#).

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NEW: Join us in serving the homeless community: Our local partners are looking for compassionate individuals to help share the love of Christ by addressing the medical needs of the homeless in our community. There are daytime and evening opportunities available. [Click here for more info and to sign up.](#)

NEW: 10:10 Life - Honoring, Loving and Caring for Our Senior Adults: Your disciple group can join in with our teams that bring Eleven22 worship to senior adult residents. You can also be a part of special events at Senior Living locations. All ages are welcome. Contact senioradults@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.

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: *Acts 1:8; Romans 10:5-15; Ephesians 6:15*

Discussion Questions

Leaders: Please make sure you get to the **action step** every week. There is no pressure to get through all the questions; prayerfully plan your choices for your group.

- **Read *Ephesians 6:15; Romans 10:5-15*.** 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:** Read Matthew 28:18-20 (The Great Commission). Pastor Josh said we can't accomplish the right mission with the wrong shoes. What is our mission? (Also see Romans 10:13-15.)
Deepen: Discuss the importance of being fully prepared with the gospel of peace.
- **Discover:** Explain the difference between seeing the church you attend as a cruise ship or a battleship? *(The cruise ship mentality: The church is here to cater to me and entertain me. I don't want to hear hard truths, serve or go on mission. I just want good music, a funny sermon with some good tips and a comfortable seat. The battleship mentality: The church is about Jesus – what He did for us and what He's calling us to do. He calls us to obey his commands and to join in our spiritual war. We are part of the church to be a part of the mission.)*
Deepen: How have you experienced church life as a cruise ship and as a battleship? (Please don't feel condemned for enjoying good worship music and good sermons. There's nothing wrong with that and we all have our preferences. However, let's not allow our preferences to get in the way of the mission. We need to be more eager to hear the Gospel, learn about God, obey His commands, be changed from the inside out and join the spiritual battle, than we are to be comfortable in our preferences.)
- **Read *Ephesians 6:15*.** Roman soldiers had cleated shoes to dig into the ground for stability when in combat and defending attack. How does the gospel give us stability to do battle?
- **Read *Romans 10:13*.** What makes it difficult for some to believe this Good News? *(You may feel condemned by your sin and think you're beyond saving. But are you so arrogant to believe that you are better at sinning than Jesus is at saving? Jesus Christ came to bear your condemnation so that there is therefore now no condemnation for you if you are in Christ Jesus. There is more grace in Him than sin in you, so everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.)*
- **Discover:** How do you feel about telling others about the Gospel (evangelizing)?
Deepen: How can you overcome any fears or obstacles to share your faith? *(Know who God is and what His character is. You need to truly believe God loves you and Jesus died for your sins, before you can share that with others. Take the pressure off and remember you share, but Jesus saves. Your job is to be a witness, not a lawyer. A lawyer's job is to make an airtight case, a witness's job is just to share their story. Share your story. You're not called to do everything, but you are called to do something.)*
- **Read *Romans 10:13-15*.** How can you practically prepare yourself to share the gospel of peace (evangelize) with others? *(Evangelizing comes in many forms. Sharing your story, praying, acts of kindness in Jesus's name and more. You never know how God will use you to bring someone to Him. Pastor Josh gave the example of being saved instantly, like a light switch, or how most people are saved, over time, like a dimmer switch. We love and disciple people from right where they are to their next step.)*

Action Step

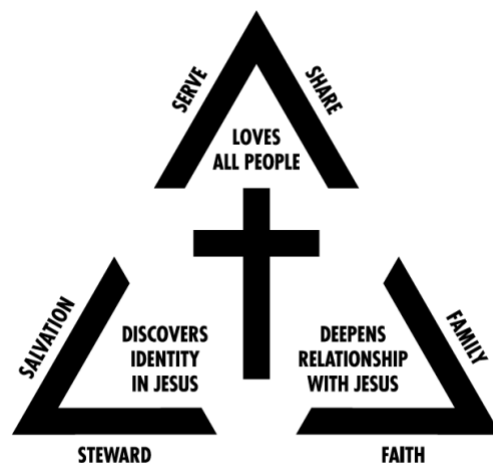
Begin each day with a prayer for courage to speak boldly, for wisdom to share the message of Jesus and peace in knowing you are a witness for Jesus, not a lawyer. Be prepared to answer -- How has the gospel worked in your life?

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.