



DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM

VIDEO CURRICULUM GUIDE

BEST.SERMON.EVER.: WEEK 3

April 30 & May 3, 2020

LEADER INFO

Action Step Focus

Make sure you leave time to work through the importance of the anger ledger. Make a plan to follow up with your group this week to see how they are doing.

New Leader Training | Coming in May

Challenge your group to pray about taking their next step in faith by leading a disciple group.

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Best.Sermon.Ever | Additional Resources and Action Steps - Visit coe22.com/bestsermonever

Baptism Classes | Hosted Virtually

Interested in baptism or ready to take your next step? Sign up for an upcoming baptism class online [here](#).

Spring Trimester Extended | Groups normally have the option to take a 3-4 week break in May. Due to the season we are in are in, we encourage ALL groups to continue to meet and stay connected.

MEMORY VERSE: He must increase, but I must decrease.– John 3:30

THIS WEEK'S READING PLAN:

Monday – Matthew 5:21-26

Tuesday – 2 Corinthians 5

Wednesday – Leviticus 19:9-18

Thursday – James 1:19-21

Friday – Matthew 18:15-20

Saturday – Ephesians 4:25-37

Sent Focus - Week 16: Together, let's continue to lift up our neighbors all over the world who are responding to the Corona Virus with various levels of resources and knowledge of what will come next. Let's pray specifically for our missionaries and church planters who are navigating a different culture, seeking to serve their communities well during a time of uncertainty. Pray for hope, healing and opportunities for deepening conversations around the world as we all continue to believe in the sovereignty of God.

Missionary Partner – Brandon Murray – Mozambique, Africa – Overland Missions

CONNECT & CHECK-IN:

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR LIFE: *(Use as needed for your group this week)*

- What was challenging for you over the last week?
 - Action Step – What three opportunities has God given you to be salt and light?
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BEST.SERMON.EVER. - WEEK 3: Anger

The Point: A Holy God reconciled sinners unto Himself through the blood of His Son. The Reconciled are SENT as ambassadors for Christ offering that same reconciliation. Forgiven people forgive people. What are you waiting for?

SERMON TEXTS: Matthew 5:21-26, 2 Corinthians 5

Discussion Questions

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

DISCOVER

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Have someone read Matthew 5:17-22. *(*It is in light of 17-20 that 21 and 22 should be read)*

1. To understand what is going on here you must understand how religious teachers were interpreting the Bible in Jesus's day. Ancient Jewish teachers had boiled the Old Testament down into a series of dos and don'ts. What's the problem with this interpretation? How does Jesus elevate their interpretation?

(Jesus's point is that even though you may not have actually killed someone, what's the condition of your heart? Is their anger and rage against your fellow man there? As we found out last week in verses 17-20, true righteousness is not found in trying to keep God's law as it is a matter of the heart.)

2. Jesus says that people who use insulting words are liable to the "fire of hell". Jesus says in Matthew 12:36, "You will have to give an account for every careless word you speak." Why is Jesus saying words matter? How are you passive, aggressive or passive-aggressive with your words? Consider how Matthew 12:36-37 relates. *(Again, you must consider, what is in your heart? Sure, you may have not literally murdered someone, but do you "kill" the people around you every day with your harsh speech? Do you ever "blow up" with your words and cause brutal collateral damage to loved ones around you?)*

3. Since Jesus is clear that anger and the words we use are serious, let's identify and discuss some of the problems that happen when we get angry. What makes you angry and how do you normally handle it? Why does it make you angry, OR what's the softer emotion behind the anger shield? *(The first problem with anger is that it shows that a lack of control. Since self-control is one of the fruits of the Spirit, having a problem with this is reflecting a lack of spiritual maturity. The second problem with anger is that it messes up relationships. You may feel that your anger is "no big deal", but sometime ask your spouse or children or co-workers how they feel about it. You may get quite a different answer. It also shows the true attitude of your heart.)*

DEEPEN

Now, let's dive deeper into God's Word and see how we might apply it to our lives.

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Have someone read Matthew 5:23-26.

4. Anger has an outcome. Many times, that outcome is a broken relationship. Jesus is showing us what to do when that happens. What did Jesus command us to do? How have you experienced good and bad outcomes in the handling of anger? (In verses 23-24, Jesus talks about coming before God in worship, while a relationship needs restored. If you're going to begin dealing with your anger, you need to start by coming before God. Our vertical relationship with God comes first, but in response, Jesus says don't offer God a gift, GO! Be SENT and restore a broken relationship with your brother.)

5. If Jesus is the ONE thing driving everything in our life, then we must understand how He wants us to take responsibility for our anger. How does He command us to reconcile relationships? Why does He command us to go first? (We go first because He went first. We are responsible for ourselves and not the offended or offender. Going first allows us to be the salt and light within a broken relationship.)

ACTION STEP **Read Matthew 18:32-35**

If we are in Christ, we are a new creation and have been reconciled with God. Our debt is cancelled, and we have been forgiven. Forgiven people forgive people. Who do you need to forgive and be reconciled with? Use the anger ledger chart on page 15 of the BSE Journal found at coe22.com/bestsermonever. Who is it, what have they done, why haven't you forgiven and what will do about it this week? *This is a good opportunity to ask God to reveal to you the secondary emotion hiding behind the anger.*

