

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUP CURRICULUM

Week 32 - August 5 through August 11

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**TODAY'S LESSON:** "Let the weak say, 'I am strong!'"

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**TODAY'S PASSAGE:**

*Romans 15:1-6 NLT 1 We who are strong must be considerate of those who are sensitive about things like this. We must not just please ourselves. 2 We should help others do what is right and build them up in the Lord. 3 For even Christ didn't live to please himself. As the Scriptures say, "The insults of those who insult you, O God, have fallen on me." 4 Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God's promises to be fulfilled. 5 May God, who gives this patience and encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other, as is fitting for followers of Christ Jesus. 6 Then all of you can join together with one voice, giving praise and glory to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**INTERACTIVE QUESTION:** What did you learn from what we just read?

**1) The strong use their strength to help the weak.**

- We all begin our Christian journey at the same stage: weak.
- We come to God during our weakest moments, and over the course of time, He builds us up to become strong.
- One important reason that God builds His people strong is for them to help the weak. Your strength is not merely for you, it is for others.
- Christ demonstrated this by using His strength to endure the cross as a means to build us who were weak through sin.
- *Build:* to edify; to promote; to assist in the growth of another

**INTERACTIVE QUESTION:** Are you building anyone in your life today who is weak? What are some way you are helping them grow stronger?

**2) Only a strong person can bear the pain of others.**

- The quote "The insults of those who insult you, O God, have fallen on me" comes from Psalm 69:9. This passage shows us that Jesus was essentially saying, "I put it all on Me."
- Jesus took all sin for all mankind, and He willingly placed it upon Himself. He bore the pain upon Himself so that we didn't have to. This is how he saved us!

- True strength is characterized not by physical might or show of power, but by the willingness of the strong to lay down their life for the weak.
- When God gives strength, He adds no pride to it.
- Godly strength is showing compassion toward the weak.
- Godly strength is willing to take the fall for others.
- Godly strength is never concerned with being right.

**INTERACTIVE QUESTION:** Describe a time in your life where you took the pain for another person who was weak.

### **3) Peace is the goal.**

- The goal of every church, marriage or family should always be peace and harmony.
- Peace is the appropriate environment for every Christian relationship and home.
- There should never be a hint of strife or division in any of our friendships, fellowships or households.
- Christians are to live in complete harmony with one another at all times.
- *Harmony*: likeminded; understanding; wise; modest; agreed; united; to be of the same mind

*Psalms 133:1 NLT How wonderful and pleasant it is when brothers live together in harmony!*

- Often times, it is not as important to win the war than it is to win peace.
- Peace is not something you wish for, it is something you make.
- Peace starts from within a person and pours its way out to others.

**INTERACTIVE QUESTION:** What approach do you take to establish and maintain peace with difficult people in your life? Is there someone in your life today that you need to make peace with?

**CLOSING QUESTION:** What is one thing from today's lesson that you will apply this week?



**Following Jesus means looking out for the needs of others and giving sacrificially to care for one another.**

***Acts 2:44-45 (NLT)***

*44 And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. 45 They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need.*

Encourage everyone to give their tithes and offerings.