

LEADER INFO:

Leaders, don't forget to RSVP for our upcoming Disciple Group Leader Training on December 10 at your home campus! You can RSVP by <u>CLICKING HERE</u>.

Check out the Curriculum Commentary to help prepare you for your upcoming group. Go to <u>coe22.com/disciplegroups</u> and click on the curriculum.

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ANGEL WINGS - As part of our Messengers Series, there will be angel wings moving to a different campus every week. We encourage you to take a picture with your group in front of the angel wings and post on social media using the hashtag #WeAre22.

Angel Wings Schedule

Nov 29/Dec 2 || Arlington Dec 6/9 || Mandarin Dec 13/16 || Baymeadows Dec 20/23 || San Pablo

ANGEL THEOLOGY BLOG - Beginning this week, there will be a weekly blog posted at coe22.com/angeltheology on the "theology of angels." This is to inform our readers on Theological truths about angels including what they are, what they aren't, as well as examples from the Bible. You can find this blog by going to <u>coe22.com/angel-theology</u>.

SANTA'S WORSHOP - "Santa's Workshop" provides an affordable holiday shopping experience for families in the two communities where McKenzie's Academic Resource Centers (MARC) are located. Donations of new and unwrapped gifts are needed for infants through high school seniors. This annual event serves more than 100 families. For more info go to <u>caregivegrow.org/santasworkshop</u>.

SALVATION ARMY - The Kettle Campaign starts November 30th! Choose a grocery store near your home campus and ring the red bell to help change a life. Please sign up at www.registertoring.com by entering your zip code and selecting "ringing with a group". Use the group code COE22. If you have any questions, please email <u>serve@coe22.com</u>.

JANUARY BAPTISMS - Baptism Classes will begin being offered in December for in-service baptism during the first three weekends of January. Classes will be at all campuses and after all services. If you already know that you will be taking this next step of obedience, please email <u>april.terrell@coe22.com</u> and let her know which campus and which service you will be attending.

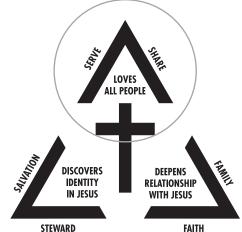
MESSENGERS WEEK 1 RECAP: Last week, the action step was to spend more intentional time with Jesus in prayer, through journaling, and/or by digging into the Word of God because the more

intimately we know Jesus, the less stronghold fear has over us. How did intentionality in these areas impact your relationship with Jesus?

THE POINT: WHO HAS GOD CALLED YOU TO BRING THE MESSAGE OF GOOD NEWS TO THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON?

MESSENGERS – WEEK 2:

TEXTS: LUKE 2:10-11, JOHN 9:1-41



As disciples, we are continually on a journey until Jesus calls us home or returns. This week's sermon points to a disciple's duty to love all people by sharing their faith.

TEACHING & DIALOGUE

Have someone read Luke 2:10-11 out loud.

The first messenger of the gospel, an angel, brought the gospel message to shepherds, who were known as social outcasts. At this time in history, it would have been opposite of social norms to bring such news to 'the least of these', but Jesus is often working in ways that seem opposite of the norm. The angel begins by comforting the shepherds, telling them that they should not fear and then immediately reveals the reason they were not to be afraid, "I bring you good news..."

- What does this passage reveal to us about the character of Jesus? God could have chosen anyone in the world to bring the gospel message to first, yet He chose lowly shepherds. This isn't a mistake, nor a lapse in judgement, but rather, Jesus was already showing us that He would associate Himself with 'the least of these'. In His humility and kindness, the Savior of the world chose to use the shepherds for the sake of the gospel at such a time as this.)
- 2. Fill in the blank: Hearing and believing that God is _____ changes the way I _____.(Example: Hearing and believing that God is humble and kind changes the way I act and react towards others.)
- 3. The birth of Jesus was considered good news for a reason it would change the world. What news or event in your life, was life-changing for you? How is God using that life changing news or event in your life for His Glory?

Have someone read John 9:8-17 out loud.

In this passage, we see a man who was born blind, receive healing from Jesus. While the man was ill-equipped to share his good news, he personally shared his story with everyone he came in contact with. At least three different times in John 9, Pharisees asked the man how or why Jesus healed him and all the man could do was share his story. The people most impacted by the blind man's story were the ones who knew him before his healing even occurred.

4. What does this passage tell us about the nature of who Jesus is? Look at verse 2 to guide your answer. (In verse 2, Jesus says that this man was born blind, not because of his sin or his parents sin, but so that the works of God might be displayed in him. This shows us that God's plan is much higher than our own. Sometimes we are blind to God's plan until it comes to fruition, but we can always have faith that His plans are better than our own.)

- 5. The blind man was ill-equipped to share his faith, but he still did it regardless. He shared the good news by sharing his story personally. How does this encourage you to share your faith? (By sharing your story personally, it creates a bond between you and the person(s) you are sharing with. You never know who you could impact by sharing your story.)
- 6. The people who were most impacted by the blind man's story were the people who knew him before he was healed. Who are the people in your life that you feel called to share your healing (salvation) story with? (Share as you feel led.)

Angel Theology Question: - Did Jesus believe in Angels? For this question please refer to the blog post: <u>coe22.com/angel-theology</u>

Here we see the various times in the Bible, where Jesus encountered angels, while on earth, and also a picture of Jesus with angels in heaven through God's revelation to John. Do these factual biblical accounts of angels change your view of angels? How about the fact that Satan is a fallen angel?

DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY ACTION STEP

In order for good news to actually be good news, it has to be news, it has to be heralded, and it has to be good. This week, we challenge you to share your faith with someone. This can be done by sharing the gospel, sharing an invitation, sharing your story, sharing coffee, or sharing in pain and prayer. But regardless of how it looks, sharing your faith will not only impact the person(s) you share it with, but it will also impact you! If you know who that person is, let your group know so they can pray for them and you and your time together.