



# LIFE CIRCLES

## DISCUSSION GUIDE - Feb. 15, 2026

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### Discerning the Body - Biodivine, Part 9

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### SUMMARY

In previous weeks in this series we've discussed how Jesus, in His incarnation, brought all of humanity into Himself, which affects each of us personally and individually. It also has to change the way we perceive reality and everyone around us. Christ's death was inclusive, not substitutional — He died once and for all, which means we can no longer regard anyone according to the flesh (their natural appearance, background, or circumstances). Everyone is a new creation in Christ. We examine the example of familiarity from Jesus' hometown and, later, His betrayer to see how judging according to sight leads to sickness, weakness and death.

### ICE BREAKER

What's something you've discovered about someone that completely changed your first impression of them?

### KEY VERSES

- 2 Corinthians 5:14-17
- Mark 6:1-6
- 1 Corinthians 11:29-30
- Matthew 16:13-18

### SEEDS FOR DISCUSSION

- When inclusive language is used in Bible: references like “all,” “no one,” “every,” etc.
- Jesus' death did away with the Adamic lineage of every human to make every human sons of God.
- Judging people according to the flesh (their natural circumstances) rather than their identity in Christ causes weakness, sickness and death in ourselves and in the church.
- Familiarity can become a barrier to receiving from God if we don't practice proper discernment of who people really are in Christ.
- The church is built on mutual discernment: seeing Christ in one another and calling out each other's true identity.
- Whoever spots an offense (or chasm or division) is responsible for resolving it. It doesn't matter who started it.
- To mutually discern others according to Christ, we cannot be justice-oriented or self-preserving.
- We don't need to create unity in the Spirit, we need to preserve it.
- In communion, Jesus shows us that fracture doesn't disintegrate union.