# WELCOME March 14, 2021

We're so glad you're here!

At Gateway, we believe in joining God to transform our lives and culture to reflect His heart by:

Loving God ● Loving Each Other ● Loving His World

WEEKLY SERVICE & MEETINGS

COMPLETE LISTING AT GATEWAYMERCED.ORG

#### SUNDAY

- Sunday Service // 9AM // In Person & Live on YouTube \*Past messages are available // www.gatewaymerced.org
- Join us for corporate prayer // 8AM // Conference Room & Zoom www.gatewaymerced.org/events
- 1st 5th Grade // 9AM // Rooms D1 D4
- 6 Weeks to Kinder // 9AM // Preschool Wing
- Catalyst High School // 7PM // Gym

## **TUESDAY**

• Crossroads Middle School // 7PM // Gym

# **THURSDAY**

- Prayer Nights Zoom // 6:30PM // www.gatewaymerced.org/events
- INSPIRE College & Young Adult // 8PM // Gym

## JOIN A SMALL GROUP:

https://gatewaymerced.org/smallgroups

#### GATEWAY COMMUNITY CHURCH

353 E DONNA DR // MERCED, CA 95340

PHONE: (209)723-4283 WEB: GATEWAYMERCED.ORG

FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM: @GATEWAYMERCED

# GATEWAY NEWS

#### YOU'RE INVITED TO GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER SUNDAY!

Good Friday Communion Service will be provided in-person and live streamed at 7PM on Friday, April 2. RSVP for childcare to Alisa Phillips by emailing aphillips@gatewaymerced.org

*Easter Sunday* will provide 9AM & 11AM services in-person and live streamed at 9AM. Children's Ministry provided for both services.

\*Invites available at the offering tables.

#### SPRING CLEANUP // SATURDAY, MARCH 27 AT 8AM

Gateway's excited to invite you all to our Spring Cleanup! For those of you who enjoy cleaning flower beds, pruning trees, and planting plants, sign up at gatewaymerced.org/serve and partake in helping beautify our campus!

## DO YOU LOVE SERVING? JOIN THE USHER TEAM

As an Usher you will be working with some amazing people to ensure that people feel welcomed on Sunday mornings and find a seat in the service. If interested please note it on the communication card or sign up at https://gatewaymerced.org/serve.

## SENIOR SUNDAY // A STUDY FOR 12TH GRADERS

Developing a Biblical foundation that lasts past graduation. Join us today in the Upper Game Room in the Gym from 10:30AM-Noon. Email Isaac Parra at iparra@gatewaymerced.org for more information.

#### HAVE YOU BEEN HEARD? // CRC DENOMINATIONAL SURVEY

Our congregation has a once-in-five-year opportunity to participate in the 2021 CRC denominational survey. This survey helps denominational leadership understand the concerns and needs of local congregations like ours. It is crucial that as many people from our congregation as possible participate. Please visit crcna.org/survey/1826 to answer the survey questions by March 31.

# RIGHTNOW MEDIA // FREE RESOURCE

We are proud to offer a free, customizable video library to equip families, resource groups, and develop leaders. Choose from more than 2,000 wholesome, educational, and entertaining videos for children, and over 20,000 biblical videos just for you. To sign up and get started fill out the communication card in this bulletin and mark *RightNow Media* or email info@gatewaymerced.org.

<ul><li>□ Baptism</li><li>□ Becoming a Follower of Jesus</li><li>□ Church Membership</li></ul>	<ul><li>☐ Kid's Ministries</li><li>☐ RightNow Media</li><li>☐ Serving at Gateway</li></ul>	<ul><li>Small Groups</li><li>Worship Ministry</li><li>Youth Ministries</li></ul>	☐ College/Young Adults
Comments, Prayer Requests: ☐ Confidential (Staff Only) Best way to Contact me: ☐ Text ☐ Call ☐ Email	<b>s:</b> way to Contact me:	: 🗖 Call 🗖 Email	

Contact Me About:

If you are a 1st or 2nd time guest, how did you hear about Gateway? I've been here a few times Best Contact Phone: I attend here often Apt: Birthdate Change in Contact Info I'm a member

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced "Bond Together/Grow Together" // For the week of 3-14-2021

### FOR YOU AS THE TEACHER/HOST

Remember to begin each Small Group session with a word of prayer. Please keep in mind that the purpose of this curriculum guide is to cultivate a deeper relationship with the Lord and each other through conversation that intentionally engages the weekly message.

## **QUICK REVIEW**

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Request Card

Look back over your sermon notes from this week's teaching. Discuss the message briefly. Was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

\*OPENER QUESTION OR ACTIVITY: What actions did you take when you had your first "crush"?

SUNDAY'S MAIN SCRIPTURE TEXT: John 19:25 "Devotion to Jesus"

#### **DIGGING DEEPER:**

Read the Luke 7:36-50 passage together.

- 1. When you read about the woman in this account, are there any ideas or questions which come to your mind? Think about this and discuss. (NOTE: Some people have said this is Mary Magdalene who it's rumored was a prostitute. There is no biblical evidence that this is Mary Magdalene or that she was a prostitute.)
- 2. Why would this woman, in tears, pour this costly perfume on Jesus' feet? What does that tell us of her devotion to Jesus?
- 3. Read vs 44-47 again. How would you describe Jesus' explanation of love? How does that make you feel, if someone like her is able to love Jesus more than a "lesser sinner"?
- 4. Since we cannot pour expensive perfume on Jesus' feet, what type of love does her action model for you, personally?
- 5. How long did it take you to love Jesus when you were born again? This woman had actions that revealed her love. What actions began to show your love for Christ then....and now?

#### **APPLY IT TODAY**

Looking back over this week's teaching, what is most important for you to remember and why? How will you grow in the area you have identified?

