

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 2-28-2021

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

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's the first thing that comes to your mind when you think of someone who didn't follow through on their word?

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: Mark 12:30-31, Romans 12:6-9(Loving the Lord your God with all your....strength)

Digging Deeper: James 2:14-22, Matthew 25:44-45

1. Read James 2:14-22 together. How would you phrase the main point of these verses?
2. Discuss how loving God with all our strength and having faith which produces works, relate to each other.
3. Pastor Kevin talked about an Olympic Decathlete needing to have his heart, soul, mind and strength involved in the training for the events. How does James 2:20-22 reflect this idea for you?
4. According to Matthew 25:44-45, what does Jesus say to each of us about loving Him?
5. Can you describe the easiest part of our theme today for you, personally? What is the hardest part of this for you?

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?