

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

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?