

## Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

*"Bond Together/Grow Together"*

**For the week of 3-12-2023**

### 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** Discuss the message briefly. Did anything challenge or confuse you?

**\*Opener Question or Activity:** What are your favorite comfort foods when in trouble?

**Sunday's Main Scripture Text:** Matthew 22:37-40 "Comfort"

**Digging Deeper:** *(Teachers/leaders, feel the freedom to not ask very question)*

Read John 14:1-27 as a group.

1. This passage takes place during the last supper. Pick out the things in this passage that jump out at you concerning peace and comfort.
2. Compare vrs. 1 and 18 and discuss how comfort is directly tied to Jesus. As a disciple of Jesus, what is your response to His words here?
3. When in your life did you have turmoil and not peace, or discomfort instead of comfort? How did you work with Jesus to get through that?
4. Vs. 27 states, "Don't let your heart be troubled and do not be afraid." Talk about your part in finding this comfort. How would you explain the key that Jesus is giving us here to not being troubled or fearful?
5. How many of your friends have gone through these emotions? How have you comforted them or wished you could comfort them?
6. How important is your role as a disciple to bring Jesus to your world? Discuss how this connects with all the hurt, pain, problems, etc you see.

**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?