

WELCOME

August 22, 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 // In Person (9AM & 11AM) & Live on YouTube (9AM)
*Past messages are available // www.gatewaymerced.org

Family Room and Nursing Room Available by the Restrooms.

- Join us for corporate prayer // 8AM // Conference Room & Zoom
www.gatewaymerced.org/events

- 1st - 5th Grade // 9AM & 11AM // Rooms D1 - D4

- 6 Weeks to Kinder // 9AM & 11AM // Preschool Wing

[instagram.com/gatewaychildrensministry/](https://www.instagram.com/gatewaychildrensministry/)

[facebook.com/gateway.childrensministry](https://www.facebook.com/gateway.childrensministry)

INSPIRE COLLEGE & YOUNG ADULTS

If you are between the ages (roughly) of 25-35 and are looking for a Bible study group, our Young Pro's group is getting back together Aug 24 at 7PM for Pizza at 111 W 27th St, Merced, CA 95340. Join us!

[instagram.com/inspiregateway/](https://www.instagram.com/inspiregateway/)

STUDENT MINISTRIES WEEKLY YOUTH GROUPS ARE BACK SOON!

Crossroads MS (6th-8th grade) will be back Tue, Sept 7, 7-8:30PM and Catalyst HS (9th-12th grade) is back Sun, Sept 12, 7-8:45PM, both in the Gateway Gym. PARENTS: Email Isaac to sign up for parent emails iparra@gatewaymerced.org or sign up at gatewaymerced.org/youth.

[instagram.com/gatewaymercedstudents/](https://www.instagram.com/gatewaymercedstudents/)

[facebook.com/GatewayMercedStudents/](https://www.facebook.com/GatewayMercedStudents/)

GATEWAY NEWS |

38TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION // NEXT SUNDAY // ONE SERVICE 10AM

COMMUNION // TODAY

The communion table has been prepared for all who love Jesus and trust Him alone for the forgiveness of their sins. Everyone who is truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believes in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desires to live in obedience to Him, is invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord.

FAITH & SCIENCE SEMINAR - TONIGHT AT 6PM

Faith & Science Seminar with Dr. Johnny & Christiane Touma: Part 3: Embryonic development and Sanctity of life (8/22)

BAPTISMS // AUGUST 29

If you would like to speak about baptism for yourself or a family member join us TODAY after the service in A4&5. If you are unable to attend please fill out the communication card or call the office at 723-4283.

HOST A SMALL GROUP THIS FALL!

The Small Groups ministry at Gateway will be starting small groups again this September! Our team would love to invite you to join as a Host and learn more about how to lead in one of our simple studies, in your home! Please fill out the communication card and say "Host" and place it in the offering basket. The Host training is Sat, Aug 28 and we want to see you there too! Sign up now!

HOUSEBOAT RETREAT // COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULTS!

INSPIRE, our ministry for college and young adults, is taking registrations online now for "The Journey" Houseboat Retreat at Lake McClure, Sept 10-12. We will worship, share Jesus, wakeboard, swim, and so much more! Space is limited so sign up now online at gatewaymerced.org/inspire.

FINDING JOY // WOMEN'S EVENT // SAT, SEPT 11!

If you've missed gathering with local women who love Jesus and want to focus on Him, then sign-up today! Please join us as we take time to reconnect, hear some true stories of God's grace, and worship. TOGETHER! Admission is free; but attendees must register and provide their own chair. Tickets are available at findingjoy.eventbrite.com.

Contact Me About:

- Baptism
- Becoming a Follower of Jesus
- Church Membership
- Kid's Ministries
- RightNow Media
- Serving at Gateway
- Small Groups
- Worship Ministry
- Youth Ministries
- College/ Young Adults

Comments, Prayer Requests:

- Confidential (Staff Only) Best way to Contact me: Text Call Email

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced
"Bond Together/Grow Together" // For the week of 8-22-2021

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

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

***OPENER QUESTION OR ACTIVITY:**

How are you at making choices in life? Friends? Jobs? Investments? Churches? Homes?

SUNDAY'S MAIN SCRIPTURE TEXT:

Philippians 1 - Choosing Joy - God's Got You

DIGGING DEEPER:

1. Read Philippians 1:1-5. Verse 4 talks about joy in prayer. What can you find in the verses in this section that might explain why Paul prays with joy?
2. Describe how joy has impacted your daily life? What are the things that bring you the contentment and peace that accompanies joy?
3. Now, read Philippians 1:12-20. How can Paul express joy in the midst of his very difficult circumstances (vs 18)? What does this say about our circumstances and the way in which we are to work through them?
4. What are the most difficult circumstances in life which seem to steal your joy? Have you worked through any of these circumstances to find peace yet or are you still processing them? It's ok to be in the midst of the process.
5. Read Philippians 1:21-26. Discuss the dilemma Paul describes here. How can he have this type of faith?
6. Paul is a "Super-Christian" in these verses, isn't he? But how would you say it is possible for us to have this type of attitude and approach to our faith in today's world? What will make it hard? How will it be accomplished?

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?

Communication/Prayer Request Card

August 22, 2021

Mr. / Mrs. / Ms.

Name: _____ Change in Contact Info

Email: _____ Birthdate: _____

Address: _____ Apt: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Best Contact Phone: _____

I'm new to Gateway: 1st Visit I attend here often I'm a member

I've been here a few times

If you are a 1st or 2nd time guest, how did you hear about Gateway? _____

