

WELCOME

August 29, 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)

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 |

FAITH & SCIENCE SEMINAR - TONIGHT AT 6PM

Faith & Science Seminar with Dr. Johnny & Christiane Touma.

FIT TEAM SUNDAY MORNING!

If you love people and love to serve, the FIT Team needs you! FIT (First Impressions Team) consists of Ushers, Refreshments, Greeters, Welcome and Safety Teams. Please sign up today to use your gifts to make Gateway even more welcoming every Sunday!

OVERCOMING EMOTIONS THAT DESTROY // STARTING SEPT 7TH

Join us Tuesday nights. You will learn the difference between good and bad anger, how to gain control of it, and how to use it in constructive ways. This no-nonsense, practical series, will give you practical biblical tools to express your anger appropriately and deal with those who express their anger toward you. Call the Church office at 723-4283 or fill out the communication card.

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.

HOMESCHOOL FAMILIES POTLUCK AND YARD GAMES // SEPT 18

If you are interested in participating on Sat, Sept 18th from 1-4PM at Kevin and Jenny Gonzalves Home please fill out the communication card or contact Jennifer Parra (510) 304-6329 or JDGhimenti@aol.com to sign up. Bring your own blanket or chair. A potluck sign up sheet will be emailed out to those who sign up.

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.

College/ Young Adults

Small Groups
 Worship Ministry
 Youth Ministries

Kid's Ministries
 RightNow Media
 Serving at Gateway

Baptism
 Becoming a Follower of Jesus
 Church Membership

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 8-29-2021

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:**

Have you ever pursued something that so motivated you that you went after it until you got it?

SUNDAY'S MAIN SCRIPTURE TEXT:

Philippians 2:1-18 - "Be a Star"

DIGGING DEEPER: Hebrews 12:1-3

1. Read Hebrews 12:1-3. What are the verbs listed in these verses that apply to our faith effort? What do you see as the points the writer is making?
2. Discuss what runners in races wear. How does this apply to Christians living out or running their faith race?
3. Who has been the best example for you in running their race as a believer? How do they inspire you to live?
4. What is the joy set before Christ as He endured the cross? Vs 2
5. Do all Christians find this joy? What is the reason some believers don't find joy?
6. What about you? What are the ways you can keep encouraged and find joy in your race? Are you doing that? What hinders you?
7. Read verse 3 again. Could this be one clue to how to keep joy and stay encouraged?

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 29, 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? _____

