

WELCOME

September 3, 2023

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

GET CONNECTED

GATEWAYMERCED.ORG

SUNDAY SERVICE - 10AM

Join us in person at: 353 E Donna Dr. Merced, CA. 95340

- Corporate Prayer | 9AM | Conference Rm
- Family Room & Nursing Room available by the restrooms
- 6 wks - Kinder | Preschool Wing
- 1st-5th grade | Rms D1-D4



Scan for YouTube

Or LIVE on our YouTube Channel

NEW TO CHURCH?

Go to our Guest Center for next steps or scan QR code to fill out our connection card



Scan for Next Steps

DOWNLOAD OUR CHURCHCENTER APP



- Watch past sermons or kids at home videos
- Set up payments for tithes or offerings
- Check out the available small groups
- Fill out connection card

GATEWAY WIFI



Scan to Connect : GCC-CHURCH



Scan for WiFi

SOCIAL MEDIA



@gatewaymerced

353 E DONNA DR MERCED, CA | (209)723-4283

EVENTS

LABOR DAY / OFFICE CLOSED TOMORROW

The Church office will be closed (9/4) in observance of Labor Day.

BARN RAISING EVENT / SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Handy with a hammer? Help us build the framework to the Generations building on Saturday, September 9th! We'll be starting that morning at 7AM with prayer & breakfast burritos. Lunch is provided and childcare will be available for workers that day (9AM-2PM). When do we finish? When we are done. For any questions about meals, contact Anna Alkema: annaalkema@att.net. Questions about construction work that day, contact Bob Alkema: bobalkema@gmail.com.

"ENGAGING CULTURE" SMALL GROUP SIGN UPS HAVE BEGUN!

Please go online at gatewaymerced.org/smallgroups to find a group perfect for you and your family! We have men's, women's, and couples groups happening many days and times of the week, and of course our college and young adults will be studying this at INSPIRE on Thursday nights!



"A NIGHT OF HOPE" WORSHIP NIGHT - SEPTEMBER 30TH, 6PM

Join us on September 30th at 6PM for a night of hope, filled with music and encouragement. This is a free event that will take place at the Kamangar Theater in downtown Merced. Anyone and everyone invited!

HE>I - COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULTS FALL RETREAT

Registration is now open to sign up for the college and young adults retreat discovering the greatness of God. We will stay above Oakhurst at Camp Sugar Pine Fri. Sep. 15 - Sun. Sept. 17. Cost is \$100. Sign up early to get in on this incredible weekend.



DRIVERS NEEDED!

We have mentioned the need for additional drivers for our church van (normal license qualifies). We still need more drivers so we can schedule drivers once a month to help people get to church. However, we also need people willing to Drive to local doctor appointments. We have had a couple request from **people who needed a ride to an appointment**. If you are willing to be on a list of those willing to drive if available, please let us know by calling the Church Office at (209) 723-4283.

RIGHTNOW MEDIA / FREE RESOURCE

We are proud to offer a free, customizable video library to equip families, resource groups, and develop leaders. To sign up and get started fill out the communication card in this bulletin and mark RightNow Media or email info@gatewaymerced.org.

Contact Me About:

- Baptism
- Becoming a Follower of Jesus
- Church Membership
- Infant/Kindergarten
- RightNow Media
- Serving at Gateway
- Elementary/Preteen
- Worship Ministry
- Youth Ministries
- College/Young Adults
- Discover Serving
- Small Groups

Area of Interest:

Comments, Prayer Requests:

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

UNCOMMON - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together" // For the week of 9-3-23

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 was the hardest thing you can remember about being a child? If you're a parent, what was the hardest thing about parenting?

SUNDAY'S MAIN SCRIPTURE TEXT:

Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Ephesians 6:1-4

DIGGING DEEPER:

(Teachers/leaders, feel the freedom to not ask every question)

Read Deuteronomy 6:1-9 together.

1. What are vrs. 1-3 saying, in your own words? Try not to use any of the words from the text in explaining what this passage says.
2. How would you explain to a friend your objective in parenting is to teach children to "fear the Lord your God...by keeping all His decrees and commands..."? How would a non-believing world respond to this?
3. What are the examples of ways good parenting impacts a society? What are the examples of this you can point to today?
4. How could you engage non-Christians who hear this teaching, or others like it from Scripture(Proverbs 22:6, 15, Colossians 3:20, Ephesians 6:1), and would doubt or question its validity? Discuss ways to have healthy discussions.
5. Re-read vrs. 6-9. How do you follow through, in our day and age, with implementing these things? Are you to really tie them on your hands and foreheads, and doorframes of your homes?
6. Read Malachi 2:15 Why or why not should you raise godly children intentionally or allow them to develop their own faith by chance?

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

Mr. / Mrs. / Ms.

Name: _____ Change in Contact Info

Email: _____ Birthdate: _____

Address: _____ Apt: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Best Contact Phone: _____ City: _____

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? _____

September 3, 2023

GATEWAY COMMUNITY CHURCH SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2023



UNCOMMON
Pursuing God's design for your life

