

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of January 3, 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 - "Living Faith Filled Lives"

Look back over your sermon notes from this week's teaching. Was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

***Opener Question (related to the topic taught):** Describe a time where you were in a situation and thought "I was made for this very moment".

Main Scripture Text: Esther 4:9-17, Other texts: Ps. 139:16, Eph. 2:10

Digging Deeper

(Review this weeks passage and discuss some deeper questions related to it)

1. What was the dilemma Esther faced?
2. What, in our day, would cause you to be faced with a moral dilemma?

(Esther would break the law to approach the king, on behalf of her people.)

3. Read verse 14 again. What, would you say, was Esther's cousin (2:7) Mordecai really saying to her? What message was he conveying? Discuss
4. Esther's decision to speak on behalf of others could have cost her life. But what would you say was the reason she did it? Have you had the opportunity to speak on behalf of others, even if it might cost you something? Describe
5. How do you show your readiness to do God's will and work?

Apply it today

Looking back over this week's teaching, what is most important for you to remember and why?