

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 10-30-2022

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 is your favorite riddle? Share it together.
Today's lesson may seem like a riddle to those seeking how to get to heaven.

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: Luke 18:15-30

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

Read Luke 18:18-30

1. What were the things this rich ruler felt confident in regarding his right to inherit eternal life (vs. 18-21)?
2. Jesus' words in vs. 22 saddened the ruler because he was rich, but is there an underlying reason he could not accept Jesus' direction?
3. What was Jesus' point in asking him to sell all his possessions and give them to the poor? Is this the key to eternal life or not (John 3:16)?
4. Being rich and entering the kingdom of God is a heavy topic as Jesus makes clear in vs. 24-25. How do you feel about it being more difficult to enter the kingdom of God if you have wealth? Do we have wealth in the west? How can I be certain I'm not being deceived by my wealth?
5. Describe together your understanding of how a person enters the kingdom of God and eternity? Use scripture.
6. How does Jesus assume a follower of His lives based on vs. 29-30?
7. If you could summarize Jesus' whole point in this passage, how would you?

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?