

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?