

# WELCOME

October 17, 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](http://www.gatewaymerced.org)
- Join us for corporate prayer // 8AM // Conference Room & Zoom  
[www.gatewaymerced.org/events](http://www.gatewaymerced.org/events)
- 1st - 5th Grade // 9AM & 11AM // Rooms D1 - D4
- 6 Weeks to Kinder // 9AM & 11AM // Preschool Wing
- Catalyst High School // 7PM // Gym

### TUESDAY

- Crossroads Middle School // 7PM // Gym

### THURSDAY

- INSPIRE College & Young Adult // 8PM // Gym

#### JOIN A SMALL GROUP:

<https://gatewaymerced.org/smallgroups>

#### GATEWAY COMMUNITY CHURCH

353 E DONNA DR // MERCED, CA 95340

PHONE: (209)723-4283 WEB: GATEWAYMERCED.ORG

FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM: @GATEWAYMERCED

## GATEWAY NEWS

### WILLIAM JESSUP CHOIR & ORCHESTRA // NOVEMBER 7TH

On Nov. 7th, the William Jessup Choir & Orchestra will be performing at Gateway for both services, 9AM & 11AM, and once again in the evening for a concert at 5PM. We require help in hosting college students the night before as they are traveling a distance to get here. If you are able to house a college student Saturday night on November 6th please fill out our form at [gatewaymerced.org/events](http://gatewaymerced.org/events).

### COMMUNION NEXT SUNDAY

As you consider your participation in communion next week know that this table has been prepared for all who love Jesus and trust Him alone for the forgiveness of their sin. Everyone who is truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believes in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desires to live in obedience to Him, is invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord.

### BAPTISMS // OCTOBER 31

If you would like to speak about baptism for yourself or a family member join us on Sunday, October 24 after each service in A4&5. If you are unable to attend please fill out the communication card or call the office at 723-4283.

### FALL FEST // SUN. OCT. 31 // 6PM

Bring the kids and join us for an evening of fun. Free carnival games, trunk or treating, and more! Get some candy, win some prizes and connect with neighbors. Bring the whole family! If you would like to volunteer for the night or to volunteer to do a trunk for trunk or treat sign up at our website [gatewaymerced.org/fall-fest](http://gatewaymerced.org/fall-fest) or fill out the Fall Fest insert and turn into the offering basket.

\*Invites to give to friends and family are at the information booth.

### "GENERATIONS" CAMPAIGN

Please remember to be in prayer for our "Generations" Campaign, asking God to also show you how He wants you to be part of it. Thank you!

### RIGHTNOW MEDIA // FREE RESOURCE

We are proud to offer a free, customizable video library to equip families, resource groups, and develop leaders. Choose from more than 2,000 wholesome, educational, and entertaining videos for children, and over 20,000 biblical videos just for you. To sign up and get started fill out the communication card in this bulletin and mark RightNow Media or email [info@gatewaymerced.org](mailto:info@gatewaymerced.org).

#### Contact Me About:

- Baptism
- Becoming a Follower of Jesus
- Church Membership
- Kid's Ministries
- RightNow Media
- Serving at Gateway
- Small Groups
- Worship Ministry
- Youth Ministries
- College/Young Adults

#### Comments, Prayer Requests:

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

How have you seen God move in your life this week/recently?

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced  
"Bond Together/Grow Together" // For the week of 10-17-2021

**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:**

Growing up, were there people in your community who you knew you did not want to be like? Whether rich or poor, old or young, loud or quiet, who were some of them and why did you not want to be in their situation?

**SUNDAY'S MAIN SCRIPTURE TEXT:**

1 Samuel - Ephesians 4-5 "What's in Your Bucket"?

**DIGGING DEEPER:** Read Matthew 25:14-30

1. Read again vs 35 and 36, What are the categories of need that are being addressed? Are there any you care to share where you were the one in need and how the church(God's people) did or did not help?
2. When your life crosses paths with the lives of people who have these needs, how do you think, feel, respond? What about these encounters is difficult for you in this situation or what is easy?
3. How do you go about changing the way you respond to those needs when you are confronted with them?
4. What motivation do you have that could provoke you to go outside of your comfort zone to reach out to those you do not have a natural affinity with? Motivation either from fear or love?
5. What do you do when you feel the tug on your heart, but feel inadequate (Your bucket is empty) and your own need seems too great for you to reach out?

**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**

**October 17, 2021**

Mr. / Mrs. / Ms.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Change in Contact Info

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Best Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I'm new to Gateway:  1<sup>st</sup> Visit  I attend here often  I'm a member

I've been here a few times

If you are a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> time guest, how did you hear about Gateway? \_\_\_\_\_

**GATEWAY COMMUNITY CHURCH  
SUNDAYS 9AM & 11AM**



**Becoming Love in a World  
Full of Setbacks & Difficult People**

**OCTOBER 17TH, 2021**