

# WELCOME

October 24, 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](http://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](http://GATEWAYMERCED.ORG)

FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM: @GATEWAYMERCED

## GATEWAY NEWS |

### COMMUNION // TODAY

The communion table has been prepared for all who love Jesus and trust Him alone for the forgiveness of their sins. 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.

### BAPTISM CLASS TODAY

If you would like to speak about baptism for yourself or a family member join us TODAY after each service in A4&5. Baptisms will take place next Sunday, October 31.

### 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.

### 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).

### GATEWAY HOMESCHOOLING GROUP

Please join us on Saturday, November 13 at 10AM at the WOW Science Museum in Lodi. \$6/Child \$8/Adult. Please RSVP on your communication card or email Jenn Parra at [JDGhimenti@aol.com](mailto:JDGhimenti@aol.com).

### 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 10-24-2021

**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 had to teach, instruct, lead someone who you could not relate to because of their personality, appearance, demeanor, attitude? How did you work through it? Did it end well? Did you learn anything?

**SUNDAY'S MAIN SCRIPTURE TEXT:**

1 John 4:7-16 "Love Even the Difficult People."

**DIGGING DEEPER:** Read out loud Luke 6:27-35

1. Read vs 27-28 again. How would it be possible to treat someone well who was an open enemy, who claims they hate you? Have you ever walked through this with anyone that you would like to briefly explain?
2. Read vs 29-30. This appears to speak of physical issues, but what is the underlying principle believers are to follow? How easy is it for you?
3. In vs 32-35 talks about credit/reward for responding in love. What does this mean to you? Is this reward a motivation to try to love people in difficult situations?
4. Read vs 35. Have you had any God moments where you were able to follow this direction? Would you care to explain how God moved in you?
5. In the same verse, we see that God is kind to ungrateful and evil people. What do you think this means?
6. Read vs 36 again. Talk once more about God's mercy to you and how that spurred you to be merciful.

**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 24, 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 24TH, 2021**