

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 12-5-2021

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:** Describe struggles people have in their faith journey and what results, positive or negative, have you witnessed due to struggles?

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: Luke 1:26-56 "Mary's Song"

Digging Deeper: Read Luke 1:29-38

1. What promises are given to Mary in this passage(there are at least 3)?
2. What promises fulfilled in Scripture became important and foundational for your faith journey? (ie - God fulfilling specific prophecies, God's delivering people in scripture, or verses from Psalms, Proverbs, and other books of the Bible)
3. Share any promises from God that are most important for you living out your faith today? Do you have those Bible verses available to share?
4. Zechariah became mute because he asked a question out of disbelief(Luke 1:20). Mary asked a question(vs 34) but her faith was revealed to be firm in the promises Gabriel conveyed. How would you have responded to Gabriels word, if it was you? Would you have been more like Zechariah or Mary? Why?
5. How does Mary's faith, at the young age of 15-16 as most theologians agree, reveal something you can hold onto and even share with others about God's promises?
6. Who can you share 1 promise of God with this week? When can you do it?

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?