

WELCOME

January 29, 2023

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 & Live on YouTube (10AM)
*Past messages are available // www.gatewaymerced.org
- **Family Room and Nursing Room Available by the Restrooms.**
- Join us for corporate prayer // 9AM // Conference Room & Zoom
www.gatewaymerced.org/events
- 1st - 5th Grade // *KIDS IN SERVICE TODAY
- 6 Weeks to Kinder // 10AM // Preschool Wing
- Catalyst High School // 7PM // Gym

TUESDAY

- Crossroads Middle School // 7PM // Gym

THURSDAY

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

GET CONNECTED

SMALL GROUPS SIGN UPS:

Sign up for a small group online today! Go to gatewaymerced.org/smallgroups or scan the QR Code to find a group today! Groups for men, women, couples, finances, young adults, etc.



GATEWAY COMMUNITY CHURCH

353 E DONNA DR // MERCED, CA 95340

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

FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM: @GATEWAYMERCED

GATEWAY NEWS |

Samaritan's Purse is here at Gateway! Samaritan's Purse is an evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world while sharing God's love and message of salvation.



For the next 3 weeks, Samaritan's Purse will be using our facilities and recruiting up to 50 volunteers to help the affected families from the floods. To volunteer in the effort, scan QR code or call (209)930-0675.

If you have been affected by the flood and would like their assistance, please call (209) 930-0678.

BAPTISMS TODAY!

Individuals and families have come forward with the desire to publicly profess or re-affirm their faith through baptism, and for some, present their young children for Covenant baptism. Jesus said let the little children come to Him do not hinder them; and that all of heaven rejoices when one person repents. Please join us AND heaven in celebrating with all those being baptized today.

MEET AND GREET // SUN, FEB 5

Are you new to Gateway and/or would like to get plugged into our church? Come and meet some of our Gateway staff and members at our 'Meet N Greet' next Sunday after the service in C6. We'd LOVE to get to know you, welcome you, and answer any questions you may have. Don't miss out!

WORSHIP NIGHT // WED, FEB 15 AT 7PM

Worship Night happening **Feb. 15 at 7PM!** This is a Gateway Event, but all are welcome, bring friends, family, and anyone else who might be interested. It will be a night to go deeper into what it means to worship and expand on our regular Sunday morning time together!

CAMP GATE-A-WAY // FEB. 10-12

All 6-12 grade students are invited to join us for our special 3-day camp experience happening at Gateway next month. **Registration closes Tue at 10AM for deadline to order shirts! Questions? Contact Pastor Isaac iparra@gatewaymerced.org. Register: gatewaymerced.org/youth.**

MEMBERSHIP CLASS COMING SOON // STARTING SUN, FEB 12

Interested in becoming a member? Want to learn more about who we are and what we stand for? Starting Sun, Feb 12th in Rm. A4&5 after service for an hour, we'll be providing Discover Membership classes. We'd love to get to know you better and for us to discover together if Gateway is the home God has in store for you and your family! Sign up on the Communication Card and mark if you will be needing childcare.

- College/ Young Adults
- Discover Serving (Coming this Spring)

- Small Groups
- Worship Ministry
- Youth Ministries

- Kid's Ministries
- RightNow Media
- Serving at Gateway

Area of Interest:

Contact Me About:

- Baptism
- Becoming a Follower of Jesus
- Church Membership (Feb. 12)

Comments, Prayer Requests:

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

What's Next? - Gateway Groups, Merced
"Bond Together/Grow Together" // For the week of 1-29-23

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 played a game with someone who cheated? Have you ever been inclined to cheat in a game? Talk about either the cheater, or yourself and why you did it.

SUNDAY'S MAIN SCRIPTURE TEXT: 1 Peter 3:8-16 - "Testimony"

DIGGING DEEPER:

(Teachers/leaders, feel the freedom to not ask every question)

1. Read aloud 1 Peter 3:8-16. Verse 8 lists five characteristics that contribute to your credibility. Which of them stirs you as something you want more of in your life? Explain why this is so important.
2. Verse 14 addresses your possible suffering for God. How does this affect your credibility as a Christian? With God? With Christians? With the world? Have you ever experienced this?
3. Verse 16 speaks about your conscience. This could be considered as your credibility with yourself, as your conscience will approve or condemn your actions. How would you describe your conscience and how has this impacted how you live?
4. Pastor Al spoke about our testimony this week. The Greek word is taken from the courts - being on the witness stand. What makes a believable witness in the courtroom? In what ways could you "stand on trial" for being a good witness as a Christian? Use this text to support your answer.
5. Read aloud 1 John 5:6-12. Particularly notice these words in the NASB version: *The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself(vs. 10). What does it mean that the testimony is "within you" or "accepted by you"(NIV)?*

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

Mr. / Mrs. / Ms.

Name: _____

Change in Contact Info

Email: _____

Birthdate: _____

Address: _____

Apt: _____

City: _____





State: _____ Zip: _____ Best Contact Phone: _____

- I'm new to Gateway: 1st Visit I've been here a few times
- I attend here often I'm a member

If you are a 1st or 2nd time guest, how did you hear about Gateway? _____

January 29, 2023

GATEWAY COMMUNITY CHURCH
JANUARY 29, 2023

WHAT'S NEXT?