

WELCOME

January 8, 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 // 10AM // Rooms D1 - D4
- 6 Weeks to Kinder // 10AM // Preschool Wing
- Catalyst High School // 7PM // Gym

TUESDAY

- Crossroads Middle School // 7PM // Gym

THURSDAY

- INSPIRE College & Young Adult // *KICK OFF 1/19

GET CONNECTED:

gatewaymerced.org/getconnected-2

GATEWAY COMMUNITY CHURCH

353 E DONNA DR // MERCED, CA 95340

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

FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM: @GATEWAYMERCED

GATEWAY NEWS |

WORSHIP NIGHT

Our God is powerful! Our God is faithful! Our God is good! Worship and praise Him alongside our worship team on Thursday night, January 12th at 7pm in the Worship center. We'll be going through songs that speak into His power, faithfulness and goodness! Learn what it means to worship Him and enter into this time of reverence by honoring our King.

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. We will have lots of fun, food, games, as well as 4 main sessions where we'll learn and discuss our theme: The Afterlife with our guest speaker, Pastor Pelton along with time in our small groups. More details and registration is available online by visiting: gatewaymerced.org/youth. Any additional questions, you can email Pastor Isaac: iparra@gatewaymerced.org

ALPHA PREGNANCY HELP CENTER // FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Baby Bottle Blast Begins 1/15 - Bottles will be ready to take home Sunday (1/15), you can fill it with a check, cash or coins. Remember you can always Text the word GIGGLES to 45777 or go to alphaphc.com click on donate and select Baby Bottles to give easily and securely online. Thank you for your support!

Diaper Dash 2023 - Dash over to Alpha PHC on Fri, Jan. 20 from 3-6PM. Join Alpha in blessing the community by bringing donations of diapers, cash/ check or baby wipes. If you can't make it, text GIGGLES to 45777.

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.

DID YOU KNOW?

You can recycle your old ink cartridges right here at Gateway. All you have to do is bring the empty cartridges to the church office or the information booth, we will recycle them for you.

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

What's Next? - Gateway Groups, Merced
"Bond Together/Grow Together" // For the week of 1-8-23

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:**

Describe when you had to make a decision in a split second. Did you enjoy the experience? How did "time" impact your decision?

SUNDAY'S MAIN SCRIPTURE TEXT:

Acts 17:24-26, Ephesians 2:10 "Time"

DIGGING DEEPER:

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

Break your people up into 3 groups having each group read one of chapters 2, 3 and 4 of Esther. After this, each group should summarize what has happened so as to get a perspective on Esther, Mordecai and King Xerxes (Ahasuerus).

1. Look at Esther 4:12-14. What was Esther risking? How did she get past her fear?
2. How did Mordecai show he cared for Esther, while sending her on this potentially fatal mission? Why did Mordecai put her in this position?
3. Mordecai uses the phrase, "For such a time as this." That time was a time of fear and uncertainty. God brought victory. While you aren't in a royal position(vs. 14), what have you experienced that is like this?
4. Pastor Al spoke on "Time" Sunday. How did Esther and Mordecai step into their "time" through this passage? What are the potential areas in your life where you are being called to step into your "time" today? In church? In work? Etc.?
5. Read aloud Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. Look at the variety of things that have their time. Which of these do you need? Which are not for you at this time?
6. From what you sense and know about church, are any of these relevant to where we are as a church now? Specifically, Gateway in this time and place.

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?

GATEWAY COMMUNITY CHURCH
JANUARY 8, 2023

WHAT'S NEXT?

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? _____

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