# ELCO

February 18, 2024

# 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

# CONNECTED

**GATEWAYMERCED.ORG** 

#### SUNDAY SERVICE - 8:30AM & 10:15AM

**Join us in person at:** 353 E Donna Dr. Merced, CA. 95340

- Corporate Prayer | 8AM & 9:45AM | Conference Rm
- Family Room & Nursing Room available by the restrooms
- 6 wks Kinder | Preschool Wing
- 1st-5th grade | Rms D1-D4



Or LIVE on our YouTube Channel

#### **NEW TO CHURCH?**

Go to our Guest Center for next steps or scan OR code to fill out our connection card



Scan for Next Steps

# DOWNLOAD OUR CHURCHCENTER APP

- Watch past sermons or kids at home videos
- Set up payments for tithes or offerings
- Check out the available small groups

Scan to Connect : GCC-CHURCH

Fill out conection card

GATEWAY WIFI



SOCIAL MEDIA (7)

@gatewaymerced

# **DISCOVER MEMBERSHIP | STARTS TODAY**

Discover Membership is a 5 week study on what it means to belong and be a member of Gateway. This is a great class to take just to get to know who we are and if God might be calling you to be a member at Gateway. The 5th week is for those who decided to join and want to tell their story. This class is a requirement to join Gateway, but you don't have to join if you are interested in knowing more. This class is held on Sundays during the first service in Modular 3. Sign up in the gym after service and you can catch up. Childcare is provided through Children's Ministry.

#### **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.

# DISCOVER THE BIBLE | BEGINS THIS TUESDAY | 4 WEEKS

Discover The Bible is a 4 week class that answers questions like "How was the Bible put together? Why is it called God's Word? What is the difference between the Old Testament and New Testament? How do I study it?" This is a great way to get a comfortable understanding of the Bible so that you can get the most out of studying it. No Bible knowledge required to take this class! This class begins 2/20 @ 6:30PM in the Conference room.

# **INSPIRE | COLLEGE & YOUNG ADULTS | THURSDAYS AT 8PM**

Join us Thursday nights in the month of February as we study relationships, love, singleness, marriage and dating! INSPIRE meets at **8PM here in the Gym** for anyone in the 18-25(ish) age range!

# **FURNITURE NEED | FAMILY ROOM**

We would like to offer some nicer couch/sectional for our families with small children during the morning services in the C-4 room. If you would like to donate a "good condition" couch, we would love to provide this space for young families. Please communicate on the communication card and place in the offering bag or contact Pastor Kevin. Thank you!

# MEN'S BREAKFAST | MARCH 2ND | 8-9:30AM | GYM

Come join us for another great time with other brothers in Christ! Breakfast goes from 8-9:30AM inside the Gym. We will have guest speaker Chief Steven Stanfield from the Merced Police Department join us that morning. Chief Stanfield is a strong Christian who is using his faith to lead the police force in Merced and will be sharing his experience on "Faith in the Workplace". Don't miss out on hearing his vision for Merced and how his faith plays a part in all that.

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Baptism Becoming a Follower of Jesus Church Membership	<ul><li>☐ Infant/Kindergarten</li><li>☐ RightNow Media</li><li>☐ Serving at Gateway</li></ul>	<ul><li>Elementary/Preteen</li><li>Worship Ministry</li><li>Youth Ministries</li></ul>	<ul><li>□ College/Young Adults</li><li>□ Discover Serving</li><li>□ Small Groups</li></ul>
	Area of Interest:		
nments, Prayer Requests:			

Best way to Contact me:

Confidential (Staff Only)

I'm new to Gateway:

1st Visit

I've been here 1st or 2nd time guest, how did you hear about Gateway? Best Contact Phone: I attend here often I'm a member

Series: Anchored... - Gateway Groups, Merced

<u>"Bond Together/Grow Together"</u> // For the week of 2-18-24

#### 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:**

How would you judge the character of a person who wanted to date your only daughter?

**SUNDAY'S MAIN SCRIPTURE TEXT: Romans 2:5-29** 

#### **DIGGING DEEPER:**

(Teachers/leaders, feel the freedom to NOT ask every question)
Read...Romans 2:17-29

- 1. As Paul speaks to those who are Jews, he makes a statement of accusation. What are the things he accuses the Jews of in vrs. 17-24?
- 2. How does hypocrisy in a religious person affect people who observe that person?(vs. 24) How do you distinguish the difference between genuineness and a hypocrite?
- 3. Read vrs. 25-29 carefully. What is your summary of why Paul spoke about circumcision and how did he redefine what it means to be a Jew?
- 4. How would you define "circumcise your heart"? Read Deuteronomy 10:16 and 30:6 in order to have more direction on this.
- 5. What are some examples you can point to, of genuine heart transformation and regeneration among born again followers of Jesus? What's the evidence?
- 6. How can you begin to change some inconsistent behaviors and attitudes in your Christian life this week?

### **APPLY IT TODAY:**

What was most important for you to remember today and why?

GATEWAY COMMUNITY CHURCH FEBRUARY 18, 2024

