

## Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

*"Bond Together/Grow Together"*

For the week of 2/18/2024

### 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?