

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 2/25/2024

For you as the Teacher/Host

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 old do toddlers have to be before they figure out tricks a parent uses to manipulate good things from them? Ie - "if you eat this, you will get" Why would you say it doesn't always work?

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: Romans 3:1-31

Digging Deeper: *(Teachers/leaders, feel the freedom to NOT ask every question.)*

Read Galatians 3:1-14 to begin

1. What tone would you say Paul is using in his language to these Galatians and why? What derailed them? Also see Galatians 1:6-7
2. What world religions preach works/law towards god? What conversations have you had with any of those followers that gave insight into this?
3. How would you say Paul's use of Abraham as an example of faith, struck a blow to the champions of the Law? vs. 6-8
4. How do the words "justify" and "faith"(vs 8) relate to each other? When did you first understand what it meant to be justified by faith before God?
5. In your view, what is the biggest difference between Law and faith?
6. Pick one verse between 10-14 that resonates most with you. What is it about the gospel that is so important for Paul to remind us of?
7. Vs. 14 speaks of the "promise of the Spirit". Why is this promise so vital to how you view and live out your faith?
8. How would you use this passage to help new and old Christians get a clear understanding of their position in Christ?

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