

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 2-26-2023

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:** Who has a story about a store clerk or cashier who was helping you, but you could tell they hated their job and hated helping you?

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: **1 Corinthians 13:1-13 - Loving and Gifts.** **Have you gone online to take your Spiritual Gifts survey yet? If not, scan the QR Code. 80 Questions take about 10 min. to complete.*



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

Read through 1 Peter 4:7-11(Use different translations to help understand these vrs.)

1. What are the attitudes, characteristics and gifts Peter is teaching us to excel in as members of the body of Christ in vs. 7-11?
2. What is the overarching purpose of these things as stated in vs. 11b?
3. How does being alert or sober minded apply to the rest of these things listed?
4. Why would Peter mention "loving each other"(vs 8) before all of these characteristics and gifts? How does love interact with your giftedness?
5. Have you ever utilized your spiritual gift without love? Why did that happen?
6. 1 Corinthians 13:8 states "love never fails." In the use of your gifts, how can you be sure to maintain love always?
7. Vrs. 9-11 speak about God's grace, words and strength being needed to empower our gifts so that in all things He is praised. Discuss what this should tell us about our attitude with Him in utilizing our gifts?

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?