

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 2/4/2024

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: When did you stop believing in Santa Claus or what was the story around Santa for you growing up? What do you remember about that time?

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: Romans 1:1-17

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

Read Romans 1:1-17 together

1. Who shared the gospel story with you first, that you can remember?
2. What words or phrases describe how Paul sees and loves those in the Roman church? Look closely from vs. 8-17
3. Is it all about his ministry to them, or does Paul desire something from them also?(vs. 12-13)
4. If you are in a ministry to others in your life, what can you take from Paul's letter that you can apply to your ministry? Discuss this together in your grp.
5. How would you personally describe "the gospel"?
6. Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-8 and point out the elements of the gospel that make it what it is. What is not a part of it?
7. Do you ever find people who are confused about the gospel, and yet think they know what it means? What areas are they most confused about?
8. What are practical ways you and I can live out the gospel "unashamed", as Paul states in vs. 16? Try answering this using I, me and my statements.

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