ELCO

April 7, 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:

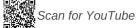
Loving God Loving Each Other Loving His World

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?

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



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
- Fill out conection card

GATEWAY WIFI



SOCIAL MEDIA (7)

@gatewaymerced

Scan to Connect : GCC-CHURCH

Thank you for your responses to the survey taken last Sunday! For your prayers, here is a summary of those who responded. (240) Already a Follower of Jesus: (2) Believing (For the First Time): (7) Considering: (1) Don't Think I Ever Will

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!

Today we have the privilege of welcoming into membership some families who have gone through our Membership Class and are officially joining us as members, promising to respond to God's love by joining us in loving God, loving each other, and loving His world! Join us in welcoming them to the family today.

BAPTISM CLASS | NEXT SUNDAY | RM A4/5 | BETWEEN SERVICES

Sign up for our next baptism class! Once Jesus becomes the center of your life, you'll want to outwardly declare how God's been changing your life. Come and find out more about what it means to be baptized Next Sunday (4/14) after the first service in Rm. A4/5. Baptisms will take place on April 28 during each service.

UGANDA TEAM UPDATE

April 11-23, Pastor Kevin will be travelling to Uganda Africa in Taxable order to support a specific ministry, Shared Love Uganda and their director Moses Ssebaggala. If you would like to support this trip in any amount financially: Check donations: write "Uganda" on the check; Online donations: scan the QR code or visit gatewaymerced.org; Text donations: send any amount followed by "Uganda" to 84321 (e.g. \$10 Uganda).

GATEWAY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY 16TH ANNUAL SUMMER CAMP

Summer Camp is for kids entering Kinder through 6th grade. Nine weeks (reg by week). Full day camp 7:30AM-5:30PM. Spots are filling up and you do not want your kiddos to miss out! If you are interested in sending your kids to Summer Camp, Contact: ksinger@gatewaymerced.org or bschwesinger@gatewaymerced.org

THRIVE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE | MAY 2-3 | BAYSIDE CHURCH

Become empowered to lead in your community and church through the many breakouts offered by Bayside Church in Roseville. Scan QR code if interested! *Must be a Gateway attendee or member. Need to purchase ticket (hotel & food not included).

GRIEFSHARE | NEW CLASS STARTING APRIL 22

Grief Share is for anyone needing a support system as they walk through such a difficult time. Please look online at the Gateway web site under small groups to find out more information.

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BaptismBecoming a Follower of JesusChurch Membership	☐ Infant/Kindergarten☐ RightNow Media☐ Serving at Gateway	□ Elementary/Preteen□ Worship Ministry□ Youth Ministries	□ College/Young Adults□ Bus Ministry□ Small Groups
	Area of Interest:		
omments, Prayer Requests:	::		
l Confidential (Staff Only) Best way to Contact me: ☐ Text ☐ Call ☐ Email	vay to Contact me: Text	☐ Call ☐ Email	

I'm new to Gateway:

1st Visit

I've been here 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 4-7-24

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:

When was a time growing up where you asked for a special gift and had to wait to receive it? Did you know you were getting it...or just "hoped" you would?

SUNDAY'S MAIN SCRIPTURE TEXT: Romans 8:18-30

DIGGING DEEPER:

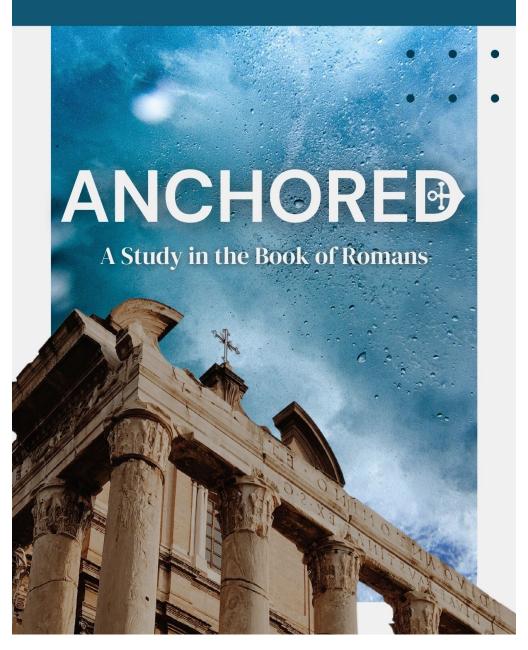
(Teachers/leaders, feel the freedom to NOT ask every question.)
Read over Romans 8:18-30

- 1. Pastor Mark spoke Sunday about the suffering of the believer. But the hope of every believer is something spoken of also, in this passage. How would you describe the word hope as it is used here in this passage?
- 2. What is it that believers should be placing their hope in, as seen in vrs. 23-25?
- 3. How often do you think about heaven? What are the best parts of heaven that you look forward to?
- 4. What is a glorified body according to these verses and is there any correlation to how we should view heaven compared to what a heavenly, glorified body looks like?(vs. 18, 21, 23)
- 5. What perspective would a Christian need when comparing suffering and the hope of their future glory? Why is this so important?
- 6. Read vrs. 28-30 together one more time. How important is it to know the promises from these verses? How would you, as a group, summarize these verses together? Meditate on these this week.

APPLY IT TODAY:

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

APRIL 7TH, 2024



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