

## Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 4/7/2024

### 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:** 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?