Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

<u>"Bond Together/Grow Together"</u> For the week of 6-25-2023

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: What was the worst injury you ever sustained? How long did it take to recover? Discuss this together before this week's lesson.

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: Exodus 15:22-27 Jehovah Rapha - "The Lord Heals"

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

- 1. Rapha means the Lord heals/restores. I Corinthians 12:28 uses the plural to talk of gifts of healings. How do you feel about this gift today and have you ever witnessed this?
- 2. What are the various ways "healing" or "restoration" is needed in people's lives today? In other words, in what instances is it needed for people and how many of these do you know the Bible speaks to?
- 3. Read 1 Peter 2:24-25 and Isaiah 53:5 together. What did Jesus accomplish and provide healing from? Have you ever recognized your need for this?
- 4. Are there any aspects of healing that confuse you or which you question? What are these and does the Bible speak to them?
- 5. Psalm 147:3 speaks of healing of the "brokenhearted" and in Psalm 23:3 on how God "restores my soul". How does this type of restoration or healing work and is there anything I need to be aware of on my part?
- 6. Read over Exodus 15:25-26. Are there any clues in these verses which relate to our responsibility in knowing God as "the Lord who heals you"? Where do you need to align yourself, much like Exodus speaks of, in order to stay in relationship with God and continually be healed or restored?

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?