

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 7-30-2023

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 T shirts, sweaters, posters, car decals, hats, shoes, purses and jewelry do you display to show whose team you are on, who you support, who you want to be like etc? Think of the contrast with today's study.

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: Jehovah Nissi, Exodus 17 - The Lord is My Banner

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

Read Exodus 17:8-16 together

1. How long have you attended Gateway Church? What has God provided for you in all that time?
2. What role does Moses play in this battle, since he isn't fighting?
3. When vs 15 speaks of a "Banner," the Hebrew word is "Nissi," and refers to it being mounted high. It has two main purposes: **to draw God's people to Him and to warn the enemies that He is taking a stand against them.**
4. Jeremiah 4:19-22, Psalm 60:4, Isaiah 13:2 are passages that refer to "banner" in the context of battle. Similar to Moses' reference to the "Lord is my Banner" being done for battle is our need to be drawn to God in battle. What are the "battles" you have faced or are facing where you need to be drawn to the "Lord as your Banner"?
5. What does verse 14 say to the importance of Joshua's role in this battle?
6. Is there any way you need to be drawn to who God is in your life? How will you do this?

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?