

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 1-22-2023

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 is one possession you have purchased that means the most to you? What would happen or how would you feel if you had to give it up?

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: 2 Corinthians 8:1-15, 9:6-15 - "Treasure"

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

1. How have you experienced generosity as a joy and exciting experience? Who were the recipients of this generosity, you or others? Feel free to share when it was you who gave.
2. How does the world's view of treasure impact us in our day and age? Jesus said "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also". What's that mean? What happens to you when your heart treasures the wrong things?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-15 together. What does Paul highlight in the churches in Macedonia(vrs. 1-6)?
4. Is there a direction he gives the churches in Corinth(vrs. 7-15)? What is it?
5. Would you share if there is anything that personally excites you about these verses or anything that is hard for you to hear?
6. What is the ONE THING that God is teaching you today about treasure and how does this impact how you live it out the next week, month and year?
7. Do you have any other questions or concluding comments regarding this important and yet sometimes difficult study on "treasure"?

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?