

## Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

*"Bond Together/Grow Together"*

**For the week of 01-09-2022**

### 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:** Do you remember the first time you felt love in a romantic way? What was it about that person that caught you?

**Sunday's Main Scripture Text:** Revelation 2:1-7 - "Learning how to love"

**Digging Deeper:** Read aloud Revelation 2:1-7

1. Vs 2 talks about the church having perseverance. What type of things does your church need perseverance in?
2. What do you think vs. 3-4 says to people who are doing the "tasks" of church, but aren't doing it in love? Why isn't it enough to just do your best?
3. What do you think losing your "first love" means(vs. 4)?
4. In vs. 7 the Holy Spirit has the answer. How do you "hear" the Spirit?  
Discuss how you know when you are walking in love?
5. Again in vs. 7, how is love related to the act of being "victorious" or "overcoming"? What does this type of church look like?(1 Cor. 13)
6. Again in vs. 7, there is a metaphor of eating from the tree of life in the paradise of God. What do you think it means to eat from the tree of life?

### 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?