

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 10-31-2021

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:** Ask "Hey Google - What is the Protestant Reformation?" Discuss this as a group.

Sunday's Main Scripture Text Hebrews 11, Hebrew 12:1-3, Ephesian 2:8-10
"Uncluttered - How the Reformation Gave The Bible Back"

Digging Deeper: Read together Romans 3:21-26

1. Which one of the words in these 6 verses resonates with you the most? Why? Which words are unclear or difficult to understand? Discuss.
2. Have you ever memorized Romans 3:23? Why is the word "sinned" important in our understanding of the Gospel?
3. In vs. 23, the words "fall short" mean to be "*left behind in a race.*" What would that mean to people today?
4. Read over verse 24 and discuss the words justified, freely, grace, and redemption and why they are critical for your life.
5. What have God's people suffered(including you), historically and personally, to make sure the Word of God and the grace of God has been delivered to others? Can you honestly say if you would be prepared to do the same?
6. Romans 3:26 states "...and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus." The word justifies means "*to make you the way you ought to be.*" How have you experienced this promise for your 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?