

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 11-7-2021

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:** What was one of the worst decisions you have ever made and would you describe that decision as foolish or just a bad mistake? Why?

Sunday's Main Scripture Text "Uncluttered", A Study on Wisdom from Proverbs 8

Digging Deeper: Read Proverbs 1:1-7 together.

1. Who is the writer of these proverbs according to vs 1 and what is significant to this? 1 Kings 3:3-15 sheds important insight into this significance.
2. What words in Proverbs 1:1-7 help describe or interpret what wisdom is and provides?
3. Think about one person from your life whom you find is one of the wisest. What makes them wise and what words from these vrs remind you of them?
4. Does higher education bring about wisdom? Why or why not? What have been your greatest experiences in "*gaining wisdom and instruction for understanding words of insight*"? School, family, experiences, etc?
5. Look at vs 7. Why would Solomon say the "*Fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge...*"?(Ps. 11:10 also) What ways should believers fear the Lord?
6. What other people in the Bible can you recall, who "Feared God"? How would they be considered wise?
7. Reflecting on all 7 vrs, are there ways you can apply this proverb to your life in the coming week? Would anyone care to share how?

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?