

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 7-24-2022

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:** Who are you? How can you answer this without telling people your name?

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: Luke 9:28-62 - Misunderstandings About Jesus

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

1. Before you became a Christian, what were your thoughts about Jesus? Who did you think He was? What were you accurate or not accurate about?
2. Jesus spoke to Paul (previously Saul) in Acts 9:4, asking him, "Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?" Jesus is resurrected at this time. How is Paul persecuting Him by persecuting Christians?

Now read 1Timothy 1:12-17

3. What are the ways Paul used to think of Jesus and act towards Him (vs. 13)? What does this say about Paul's understanding(or misunderstanding) of Jesus?
4. How is it that God changes our understanding(or misunderstandings) of Jesus, according to what Paul says in 1Tim. 1:13-16?
5. What is your story of how God "opened your eyes?" When did you receive mercy and grace to know Jesus personally?
6. According to Paul, why did Jesus open his eyes and change his misunderstanding about Him?
7. Today, how do you see Jesus differently than before your conversion?
8. What could be a couple of reasons God saved you, besides your own personal salvation? Paul was saved for a purpose. What is yours?

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?