

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 9-26-2021

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:** Is there a story of a teacher/coach/adult figure who showed you the best of intentions and love that you can share?

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: "Love People Where You Are" - Everybody, Always
Deuteronomy 5:16-21, Mark 12:28-34

Digging Deeper: Read Luke 10:25-37

1. Could you imagine Jesus telling you a story? What would you love most about that encounter? Least?
2. Why do you think Jesus asks the question, "*Which of the 3 people was a neighbor*" to the teacher of the law?
3. Why do you think this teacher/expert in the law answers the way he does?
4. Have you ever seen someone give away extravagant love to a person who was their enemy? If so, when was it and what did it look like?
5. If you were to identify with one person in the story of the Good Samaritan, which one would you be and why? Think about this.
6. Loving people can sometimes be a challenge. Loving your enemy could be impossible. What is the hardest part of this for you?

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?