

# WELCOME

November 5, 2023

We're so glad you're here!

At Gateway, we believe in joining God to transform our lives and culture to reflect His heart by:

Loving God ● Loving Each Other ● Loving His World

## GET CONNECTED

GATEWAYMERCED.ORG

### SUNDAY SERVICE - 10AM

Join us in person at: 353 E Donna Dr. Merced, CA. 95340

- Corporate Prayer | 9AM | Conference Rm
- Family Room & Nursing Room available by the restrooms
- 6 wks - Kinder | Preschool Wing
- 1st-5th grade | Rms D1-D4



Scan for YouTube

Or LIVE on our YouTube Channel

### NEW TO CHURCH?

Go to our Guest Center for next steps or scan QR code to fill out our connection card



Scan for Next Steps

### DOWNLOAD OUR CHURCHCENTER APP



- Watch past sermons or kids at home videos
- Set up payments for tithes or offerings
- Check out the available small groups
- Fill out connection card

### GATEWAY WIFI



Scan to Connect : GCC-CHURCH



Scan for WiFi

### SOCIAL MEDIA



@gatewaymerced

353 E DONNA DR MERCED, CA | (209)723-4283

# EVENTS

### FALL FEST THANK YOU

Thousands of people made it to our annual Fall Festival at Gateway Church this past Tuesday! Thank you so much to all the various volunteers: photographers, candy runners, trunk or treaters, Safety/First Aid, food crew, our ministries and their staff/volunteers, set up and clean up crew and many more who came together to bless all of the families that came through that night. Our hope is that many lives were blessed in a big way and have now received the invitation to come check out our church and learn more about our Creator!

### OFFICE HOURS

The office will close at noon on Friday, November 10th, and will be closed on Monday, November 13th in observance of Veterans Day.

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Millions of boys and girls in more than 170 countries & territories have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoebox gifts, along with the life-changing Good News of Jesus Christ. Please join our church in this wonderful movement. Boxes will be available after the service for your convenience. Final day to return the box is on November 19.

### EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY | JOB OPPORTUNITY

Do you have a heart for Jesus and His little ones? Early Childhood Ministry is hiring! Come and join this dynamic ministry and help shape the lives of the next generation. If you are 18 years or older and are interested in applying, please see Ms. Alisa at the children's information booth or email her at aphillips@gatewaymerced.org.

### SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS | NOV 19 | 2-4PM | ROOM A4&5

Wondering how you will survive the weeks surrounding Thanksgiving? Are you dreading these holidays, knowing that everything has changed and that happy memories from past years can't be recreated? Join us for a 2-hour event called Surviving the Holidays where we talk about how to deal with grief around the holiday season.



### RIGHTNOW MEDIA | FREE RESOURCE

We are proud to offer a free, customizable video library to equip families, resource groups, and leaders. To sign up and get started fill out the communication card in this bulletin or mark RightNow Media or email info@gatewaymerced.org.

### Contact Me About:

- Baptism
- Becoming a Follower of Jesus
- Church Membership
- Elementary/Preteen
- Worship Ministry
- Youth Ministries
- Infant/Kindergarten
- RightNow Media
- Serving at Gateway
- College/ Young Adults
- Discover Serving
- Small Groups

Area of Interest:

### Comments, Prayer Requests:

- Confidential (Staff Only)
- Best way to Contact me:  Text  Call  Email

## POLITICS - Gateway Groups, Merced

*"Bond Together/Grow Together" // For the week of 11-5-23*

### 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:

Discuss if you have ever had difficulty submitting to an authority over you and why.

### SUNDAY'S MAIN SCRIPTURE TEXT:

Romans 13:1-7, Acts 4:18-20 "Politics"

### DIGGING DEEPER:

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

Read Romans 13:1-7 together.

1. Politics today can be a divisive subject in most environments. Do you think we should be discussing this within the church? Why or why not?
2. How often is the word "authority"/ "authorities" mentioned in these verses? Why would Paul bring this subject into the church to understand?
3. Does verse 1 make sense for you today, in all and every society? What is difficult to understand? What is easy to understand and accept and why?
4. How does it make you feel that God speaks to government and authority within the Bible?
5. Is there ever a time this passage of Scripture could be difficult to carry out? Any examples come to mind? Read Acts 4:18-20 to see if Christians must always submit to the governing body over them.
6. After going through this study, is there one overarching theme you can summarize this passage by? Discuss this before closing in prayer.

### 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?

### Communication/Prayer Request Card

Mr. / Mrs. / Ms

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Change in Contact Info

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Best Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- I'm new to Gateway:  1<sup>st</sup> Visit  I've been here a few times
- I attend here often  I'm a member

If you are a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> time guest, how did you hear about Gateway? \_\_\_\_\_

November 5, 2023

# GATEWAY COMMUNITY CHURCH NOVEMBER 5, 2023

