

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 3/10/2024

For you as the Teacher/Host

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: Were you ever given or surprised by a gift that was unexpected and undeserved? What was it and how did it make you feel the rest of that day?

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: Romans 5:12-21

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

Read over Romans 5:12-21

1. How do you interpret the writing of Paul here, regarding law and death in vrs 12-14? What questions do you have and what is their relationship?
2. When was the very first time you recognized you were sinning? How important is this to understand in relation to this passage?
3. How many times is the word "gift" listed in vrs. 15-17 and what is your context or understanding of why Paul uses this word?
4. How often is the word grace used in vrs. 15-21?
5. What is the relationship of gifts and grace in this passage?
6. Have you ever heard this phrase that defines grace, "God's giving you what you don't deserve(heaven), and not giving you what you do deserve(eternal separation from God)? How does this reality impact how you'll live?
7. What role does grace have for your security in Jesus and how does that work? Review vs. 20-21 to find great peace about this.

Apply it today: What was most important for you to remember today and why?