

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Group, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 7-16-2023

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: How do you feel in the dark? Do you enjoy it? What about at night with no stars or moon?

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: "God's Holiness Transferred to Us" - 1 John 3:2

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

One picture of God's holiness is light. Nothing else we can see seems purer.

1. Read aloud 1 John 1:5. Consider this might be a metaphoric statement. What truths are expressed by the words "God is light?"
2. Read aloud Ephesians 5:8. How can there be a difference between being light and walking in the light?
3. Read aloud Colossians 1:12 and 1 Thessalonians 5:5. What is the difference of emphasis between saints of light and sons of light?
4. John 1:8 says that John the baptist was not the light. If he was not, why are we light?
5. Read aloud John 3:20. What choice does God give humans and what emotion blocks the right choice?
6. In John 3:19 why do they love darkness?

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?