

## Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

**For the week of 10-2-2022**

### 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:** What was your most prized possession growing up?

**Sunday's Main Scripture Text:** Luke 16:1-15, 19-31 - Being Wise Stewards

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

1. Read Luke 16:10-15 together. Sunday's message by Pastor Mark was about stewardship, money, talents, etc. The Holman Bible translation renders vs 15 as *"for what is highly admired by people is revolting in God's sight."* Think about what things you prize most that God might have you deny to yourself? Why would He want that for you?
2. Read 1John 2:15-17 about the three categories of sin, described as loves/lusts for the world. Discuss together what these sins are?
3. Why would John say if you have this "love of the world" you don't have love for the Father? Is this a hard saying to apply in our culture?
4. How do you make sure your love of the Father is paramount in your daily life? What does a believer need to focus on to be sure of this? In his time? Talents? Treasures? Testimony?
5. How do you distinguish between enjoying what God has provided and having an ungodly desire for those things?
6. Do you have any last thoughts about what you have been valuing ahead of God?

**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?