

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 10-9-2022

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:** Do you have memories you wish you could forget? If you feel free to, talk about what they are and why you want to forget them?

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: Luke 17:1-19 - Forgiving By Faith

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

1. What are the first words that come to mind when you hear Forgiveness?
What are the first words that come to mind when you hear Repentance?
2. Read aloud Matthew 18:21-35. How important is forgiveness for a believer?
What is Jesus telling you about being His disciple in this area?
3. Think about a time you needed to forgive others(a spouse, boss, friend, etc.). How did you work through that process? What hindered you? Why did/do you nurse the unforgiveness?
4. Pastor Al preached on this topic Sunday from Luke 17:1-9. What do the disciples apparently see as a key to forgiveness in vs. 5? Why would this be needed in forgiveness? How much does your faith need to grow?
5. Have you ever experienced a time where your unforgiveness caused physical, social or mental issues within you? In what ways could being obedient to Jesus' words here impact your long term health?
6. Read vs. 6-10. What does moving a mulberry tree have to do with forgiveness? What is your takeaway from Jesus' story here?
7. What are the emotions stirred within you about today's topic? Is there anything you need to do or anyone you need to speak with to apply what we've learned today?

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?