

Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

"Bond Together/Grow Together"

For the week of 9-25-2022

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:** Who are the people in your life who inspired you to make right choices by how they made choices? What inspired you about them?

Sunday's Main Scripture Text: Luke 15:1-32 God Seeks Us

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

1. Pastor Al preached that the way we treat those around us is impacted by how we view God and His attributes or character. Do you agree with this?
2. Before reading any scriptures, describe how you have come to know the attributes or character of God. Was it all from the Bible or other people or books, etc.?
3. Read 1 Timothy 1:17 and find the words that point to Jesus' character. How do these attributes contribute to how you live out your faith in God?
4. What character traits does God possess in these verses - John 3:16, Ephesians 2:4-10, Psalm 9:7-8? Describe the ways you should imitate God's character as it relates to unbelievers around you based on these verses?
5. What does 2 Peter 3:9 teach us about how God views unrepentant people? How does this character trait or attribute fit how you see the unrepentant?
6. Who are the people that are hardest for you to show God's character to? How do you break through that? How can focusing on God's character and attributes contribute to loving the unrepentant as He does?

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?