

Community Group Discussion Questions

“Invisible, but Invincible!” Esther 1-10 Sept. 22, 2018

Getting Started

The book of Esther is critiqued by scholars because it never mentions God by title, but today we will discover not only is the thumbprint of God evident in this story, but in yours as well.

Looking back over your life, share with us one place where it was obvious that God was guiding you.

Going Deeper

1. The Favor of God: (2:4)
 - a. Despite burdensome Circumstances: “when her father and her mother died” (2:7)
 - b. During a Beauty Contest: “and won his favor...and advanced her and her young women to the best place in the harem” (2:9)

Key Concept: If there were no STAND by Vashti there would be no STORY of Esther.

Looking back over your life, who made a courageous decision that ended up blessing you later in time? What was that decision, and how did it bless you?

What courageous decision is God asking you to make now?

2. The Provision of God: (2:21)
 - a. In a Plot being Exposed: “he told it to Queen Esther, and Esther told the king in the name of Mordecai” (2:22)
 - b. In Preservation from an Enemy: “Mordecai did not bow down or pay homage to him, Haman was filled with fury” (3:5)
 - c. In a Plea against Extinction: “to go to the king to beg his favor and plead with him on behalf of her people” (4:8)

Key Concept: If there were no INSIGHT for Mordecai, there would be INTERVENTION by Esther.

Looking back over your life, who has been there to whisper wisdom to you and help you navigate tough places? How did they do that?

Is there someone God may want you to whisper wisdom to?

3. The Hand of God: (4:8)
 - a. Gave Confirmation: “For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place” (4:14)
 - b. Gave Courage: “have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?” (4:14)
 - c. Gave Conviction: “Then I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish” (4:16)

Key Concept: If there was no MESSENGER in Hathach, there would be no MEAL by Esther.

Who is someone ‘small’ or ‘seemingly insignificant’ who actually plays a large part in your life? How can you thank and appreciate them for this?

‘For such a time as this’ is the most famous quote from Esther. In her story, there is one very significant decision she has to make that ends up saving the lives of thousands of people. Yet, our lives are hardly ever this dramatic. How would your approach to life change if you asked yourself several times a day, “I wonder if God has put me in this precise situation ‘for such a time as this’”?

4. Timing of God: (5:2)
 - a. Invitation from a Queen: “let the king and Haman come to the feast that I will prepare...” (5:8)
 - b. Intent of a Tyrant: “he had the gallows made” (5:14)
 - c. Insomnia of a King: “On that night the king could not sleep. And he gave orders to bring the book of memorable deeds” (6:1)
 - d. Inheritance for Mordecai: “let royal robes be brought, which the king has worn, and the horse that the king has ridden, and on whose head a royal crown is set” (6:8)

Key Concept: If there were no written RECORDS, there would have been no REVELATION by Esther.

Do you journal about the times of God’s faithfulness in your life, the times when He has answered prayers? How could this habit be a blessing for you and your children and grandchildren?

5. Deliverance of God: (7:5-6)
 - a. A Decree Revoked: “let an order be written to revoke the letters devised by Haman” (8:5)
 - b. A Day of Remembrance: “as the days on which the Jews got relief from their enemies” (9:22)
 - c. A Defender of Righteousness: “sought the welfare of his people and spoke peace to all his people” (10:3)

Key Concept: If we don’t see the EVIDENCE of God in Esther it is only because we don’t have the EYES of Esther.

Takeaway: The challenge of recognizing the physical presence of God in our daily lives requires eyes to see and a heart that feels, while possessing an open mind to the miraculous, but meticulous ways God reveals Himself.

Prayer Requests

Pray as a group that you will begin to see the supernatural ways that God reveals Himself, sometimes miraculously, sometimes meticulously.