

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Esther 5, 6, & 7. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you find most challenging/encouraging? What strikes you as you read?
2. In spite of great personal risk, Esther chose to speak to the king about his decree instead of running away from that responsibility. When have you been tempted to pass off your responsibility to someone else?
3. Why do you think Esther draws out her appearances before the king before she raises the issue of Haman's treachery? Why not ask straight away?
4. We noted in Chapters 1 & 2 that Esther is not only beautiful, but possessed of great humility & integrity. Does her character change under pressure? Discuss her behaviour before the king & in the presence of the man who's behind the death sentence of her people. What can you learn from her?
5. What do you notice about Esther 6:1-2? When Xerxes called for a reading from the chronicles of the events of his 12-year reign to that point, what selection did the servant just happen to bring to mind for him? (v. 2) How have Mordecai's obedience, meekness & loyalty been blessed by God?
6. What assumptions does Haman make that prove to be mistaken? How is his shame multiplied both by his overreach in seeking revenge against all the Jews instead of just Mordecai & by his presumption about the king's desire to repay a favour?
7. Quickly read Psalms 34:15-16 & 37:5-9, 34-3. What here is essential for you to remember...especially when you see those who work evil seem to prosper?
8. Throughout the narrative so far, how would you describe the process at work in Esther? What stands out about her for you? What was her chief weapon against her enemy? How is that always the best tool at our disposal?
9. How does King Xerxes respond to finding out Haman is responsible for his queen's & the Jewish people's predicament?
10. At this point in the narrative, what reversals have occurred? (Think about personalities as well as circumstances.) What does that tell you about God's sovereignty in all things at all times?
11. What do you learn from Haman about pride, desire for recognition, & revenge? In what ways are you tempted as Haman was? What are the dangers if you yield to the temptation? How does Proverbs 16:18 speak to this circumstance?
12. What do you hear God calling you to do as a result of this part of Esther's narrative?

Living Water Fellowship

1st Sunday in Pentecost – 2nd August 2022

COME TO JESUS

SONGS: *Be Unto your Name*
I Give You My Heart

WELCOME & PRAYER:

GROW IN HIS GRACE

BIBLE PRESENTATION: Esther 5, 6, & 7

FAITH CHAT:

1. When have you seen a “small thing” make a “BIG difference”?
2. Where would you like to make a difference for Jesus?

THE MESSAGE: *GOD'S SILENT SOVEREIGNTY: WHEN YOU ARE GOD'S PLAN*

OFFERING SONG: *Here is Love (PW 1025)*

PRAYERS:

THE COMMUNION:

Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Worship during Communion: VIDEO – O COME TO THE ALTAR (ELEVATION) -- CCL Licence 384660

GO IN HIS POWER

THE BLESSING:

**(Name), † child of God, the Father uses your hands
as he builds his kingdom.**

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SONG: *My Lighthouse*

SHOW HIS LOVE