

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Esther 8, 9 & 10. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you find most challenging/encouraging?
2. Read Proverbs 21:1. How do you see this played out throughout the Esther narrative?
3. While the king could not revoke his edict, he did allow Esther to write a new one. What do you think of the Jews' opportunity to kill & plunder those who would have attacked them? Why didn't they take any plunder?
4. What do you think of Mordecai's reward? Was it just & fair? Why is it good to rejoice when deliverance comes? What role does celebration play in your faith in Christ?
5. Throughout Esther, we see a recurring theme of "reversal." Name those you remember. Jesus also reminds us that the way of the world is not the same as the way of God's kingdom. How does this realign your expectations of life here & God's work both in this world & the one to come?
6. What do you think of Esther's request to extend the edict by a day & to impale Haman's ten sons on poles? Was she being vindictive? How might this tie into Israel's war against the Amalakitites? (1 Sam 15, Ex 17)
7. According to Esther 9:22, what's the reason for Purim? Where do you need to see God's sovereign hand at work in your life to help you rejoice? How much of your faith life is spent rejoicing & celebrating? Why not more?
8. The Jews did not make an anniversary of their war but of their rest. (9:18) Do you have a day set aside where you rest & focus on the Lord? If so, how does this day make a difference in your week?
9. How has Jeremiah 29:7 been fulfilled here in Esther? How do you see God's sovereignty being played out against the odds in Esther & in your life? How is that a permanent memory for you from this series & from this book?
10. Some scholars say that the key at the end of Esther is not that the Jews destroyed their enemies, but that God raised them to a new status of honour, dominion & mastery over those who hated them. How does living true to their identity as God's chosen people & their calling to manifest his power before the world aid in that transition? How can you grow in those two areas & simultaneously grow in your God-given power & authority in Christ in your witness to those around you?
11. Today's theme verse, Esther 10:3, is a reminder that salvation is meant to be extended generation to generation; it's not just about me & my relationship with God. How are you at work in the various avenues of your life, extending the work of Christ in word & deed to another generation?

Living Water Fellowship

12th Sunday in Pentecost – 28th August 2022

COME TO JESUS

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION REJOICE (THE MODERN POST) CCL Licence 384660

WELCOME & PRAYER:

GROW IN HIS GRACE

SONG: VIDEO – GREAT ARE YOU LORD (All Sons & Daughters)-CCL Licence 384660

BIBLE PRESENTATION: Esther 8, 9 & 10

FAITH CHAT:

1. What "victory" have had to work hardest to achieve?
2. What "victory" are you still working to maintain?

THE MESSAGE: GOD'S SILENT SOVEREIGNTY: WHEN GOD SAVES HIS PEOPLE

OFFERING SONG: VIDEO – ALL GLORY BE TO CHRIST (Kings Kaleidoscope)CCL Licence 384660

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 – GOOD & GRACIOUS KING (CityAlight) CCL Licence 384660

GO IN HIS POWER

THE BLESSING:

(Name), † child of God, the Father who began his good work within you, will continue until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SONG: VIDEO – JESUS STRONG & KIND (CityAlight/Colin Buchanan)-CCL Licence 384660

SHOW HIS LOVE