

Dig Deeper @Home – “Coincidence?”

Complement to lesson on 05/24/2020 – “Blinded by Pride”

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. What was the most ironic, “lucky,” coincidental situation you’ve ever seen?
2. Based on Scripture and personal experience, do you believe God controls every little detail of life, or stands back and passively watches as history unfolds? As you understand it, where would you say is the most accurate place on this linear scale?

1 2 3 4 5

God controls every detail like a
puppet master.

God sits idly by, passively watching
history unfold.

MEMORIZE – Esther 4: 15-16

Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai, “Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my young women will also fast as you do. Then I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish.”

READ Esther 3

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What sticks out to you in this passage? What did you like? What didn’t you like?
 - a. What general observations can you make? Anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?

2. What is this passage revealing about God? About us as humans?

3. In Esther 3:7 we are told that lots were cast to determine when Haman’s evil plot to destroy all the Jews would take place. How would the story have been different if another month was chosen? Could God have ordained an 11-month delay to allow time to enact a plan of deliverance?

4. Can you think of any Bible verses that speak to God’s control (or “sovereignty”)?
 - a. Read some of these verses and consider what they have tell us.
 - i. Romans 8:28-32
 - ii. Proverbs 16:1-9,33
 - ii. Matthew 6:25-34

5. In light of these revealed truths, what changes might you need to make, and how do you feel you are being called to put this into action?

Experiential activity – Lost and Found

Sometimes we may be tempted to believe that God is distant, unconcerned with our lives or what we are going through. Often, when we are unable to see if or how God is working in a situation, it is helpful to reflect on how God has worked in the past. After all, “hindsight is 20/20.”

Have each person share one example of God working behind the scenes in a favorite Bible story, as well as one example of how God worked in their own life. Recall if in the moment you were able to see how God was moving, or whether it is only now in retrospect that you are able to see how He was “working all things for good.”

There is almost nothing more powerful than personal testimony! Take plenty of time to share stories and thank God for his faithful love. What stories might we have to tell about our current situations five, ten, or twenty years from now!

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

I Give You My Heart - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xXRkgAz854g>

God is Working His Purpose Out - Mennonite Hymnal 605

Listen: Kutless - Pride Away <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t41bVohgWJw>

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Go forth with the confidence that we serve a God who holds all of Creation in his hands.

Father God, may your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Amen