

Dig Deeper @Home – “Coincidence?”

Complement to lesson on 06/21/2020 – “Wishing for Justice”

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

1. Growing up, who was someone that just seemed to have it out for you?
2. What’s your favorite kind of plot: Mystery, Comedy, Romance, Adventure?

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 7

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. According to verse 6, Haman was known as the foe (adversary) and enemy of Esther and the Jews. What do you learn about fighting our adversary today from Esther’s example and the following cross references?
 - 1 Peter 5:8-9 –
 - Ephesians 6:13-18 –
 - Esther 4:16 –
4. Beside each cross reference below, write down how/why the verse encourages you to petition (pray to) God, our King, with greater confidence.
 - Ephesians 3:12 –
 - Hebrews 10:19 –
 - 1 John 5:14-15 –

What is the main theme of all the cross references in question 4 above and how do they cause you to respond to God?

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 – Sowing and Reaping

There is a spiritual law of sowing and reaping (Galatians 6:7-9) and it is demonstrated clearly in the book of Esther. Haman sowed to the flesh and sowed seeds of evil by seeking to destroy others. Haman reaped the ultimate reward for those who live in such a way: disgrace and death. Esther on the other hand sowed to the spirit. She humbly prepared herself to go into the presence of the king and prior to this time interceded for her people with fasting. Esther made the decision to fulfill her calling “for such a time as this”. With courage and humility, she approached the king. As a result, she reaped life. As you look back over your life, there have been times where you have sowed seeds both to the flesh and to the spirit. What are some of the times you failed, and what did you learn from them as a result? What are some times you sowed to the Spirit and what did your life benefit from as a result?

If you have children with you. Take some seeds and plant them together as you share some examples and spend some time praying for others in your group so you were all better invest your lives by sowing to the Spirit and not the flesh.

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

His mercy is more - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uBZk0bVjCAA>

There is a fountain filled with blood <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z1WRt1Ag5gl>

How Deep the Fathers Love for us <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DOXnzYPMhWY>

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 this week, ready to give your life as a servant to others. Go this week, in the power of the Holy Spirit, ready to sow seeds for the the Kingdom of God and serve those around you. Go this week, being salt and light for the world with the love of Christ. Go with these on your lips, “Here am I, send me.”