



# GROWTH GROUP SERMON CURRICULUM

THE BIG STORY SERMON SERIES | JULY 22 2018

"FOR IF YOU KEEP SILENT AT THIS TIME, RELIEF AND DELIVERANCE WILL RISE FOR THE JEWS FROM ANOTHER PLACE... AND WHO KNOWS WHETHER YOU HAVE NOT COME TO THE KINGDOM FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS?" - ESTHER 4:14

ESTHER  
1-10

## FROM THE TEXT

- WHAT IS THE CONTEXT AND SETTING FOR THE BOOK OF ESTHER? WHERE ARE GOD'S PEOPLE AND WHAT IS THE STATE OF THE NATION OF ISRAEL?
- WHAT (OR WHO) INTERESTINGLY SEEMS MISSING FROM THE BOOK OF ESTHER? WHY DO YOU THINK THIS IS?
- THE PRIMARY CHARACTERS IN ESTHER ARE: ESTHER, MORDECAI, HAMAN, AND KING AHASUERUS. DISCUSS EACH CHARACTER AND THEIR TRAITS. WHAT POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE CHARACTERISTICS STAND OUT FOR EACH? WHO DO YOU RELATE TO THE MOST AND WHY?

## FROM THE SERMON

- ON SUNDAY YOU HEARD PASTOR ANDREW WALK THROUGH THE INCREDIBLE STORY OF ESTHER. WHAT KEY THINGS STAND OUT IN THE STORY? HOW DO WE SEE GOD WORKING IN THIS STORY DESPITE NOT BEING MENTIONED?
- READ ESTHER 4:10-14. DISCUSS WHY ESTHER IS SO CONCERNED ABOUT GOING AND TALKING TO THE KING ON BEHALF OF THE JEWS. HOW IS MORDECAI SO CONFIDENT AND HOW DOES HE REASSURE ESTHER?
- PASTOR ANDREW SHARED THREE CLEAR THINGS FROM THE STORY OF ESTHER: GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES; GOD'S OF YOUR OWN MAKING WILL TURN ON YOU; AND GOD USES YOU WHERE YOU ARE. DISCUSS WHERE YOU SEE THESE THREE POINTS FROM THE STORY AND WHAT WE CAN LEARN FROM THEM.

## FOR YOUR LIFE | APPLICATION | ACCOUNTABILITY

- MORDECAI AND ESTHER BOTH PROVIDE US WITH EXCELLENT EXAMPLES OF FAITH. WHAT CAN YOU LEARN AND APPLY FROM THEIR EXAMPLES. WHAT STEPS OF FAITH IN YOUR LIFE MAY YOU CURRENTLY NEED TO MAKE?
- ONE OF THE LESSONS FROM THE BOOK OF ESTHER THAT ANDREW POINTED OUT WAS "GOD USES YOU WHERE YOU ARE". WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOUR LIFE? DO YOU FEEL LIKE GOD IS USING YOU WHERE YOU ARE? IF NOT, ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER AS MORDECAI ENCOURAGED ESTHER TO TRUST GOD'S PROMISES.
- WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO APPLY THIS WEEK AND HOW CAN WE HOLD EACH OTHER ACCOUNTABLE?

## PRAYER FOCUS

ESTHER GIVES US A PICTURE OF GOD'S PEOPLE IN EXILE EXPERIENCING TRIALS AND DIFFICULTIES, BUT YET GOD SHOWS HIS FAITHFULNESS IN MAINTAINING HIS PEOPLE. PRAY FOR EYES TO SEE AND EARS TO HEAR GOD'S FAITHFULNESS AND SUSTENANCE IN YOUR LIFE. PRAY FOR FAITH AND JOY IN GOD'S PROMISES WHEN LIFE GETS DIFFICULT AND FOR THE LORD'S COMFORT THROUGH LIFE'S TRIALS.