



CONVERSATION STARTER

Share with the group someone you met for the first time at church this past weekend. What did you learn about them? Consider making it a goal to meet at least one new face each week.

DEEPER

READ: Esther 4:1-17

STUDY

What is the setting or context of this passage? How does this fit into the surrounding verses in Esther? What about the whole Bible?

Despite God's apparent absence in the narrative, how do we see his overarching plan of redemption unfolding through Esther's story?

What does this passage and the book of Esther as a whole teach us about the providence of God? How does this relate to God's sovereignty?

Where else in Scripture do we see God's providence on display?

How did Pastor Josh show us that Esther's story points us to Jesus? Can you think of other ways?

APPLY

How should our understanding of God's providence affect the way we approach life and the different situations we find ourselves in?

Esther's response of "If I perish, I perish" shows both courage and submission. What areas in your life need wisdom and courage from God as you serve him and his people? Are there areas in your life God might be requiring you to sacrifice and step out in faith for the good of others? What are they?

What are some other principles we can pull from this story to apply to our lives?

DISCIPLINES

Pray: Pray that in God's providence, he would use you as his instrument for his glory, that his name would be exalted by the work he is doing through you.

Read: Consider reading the rest of the book of Esther to better understand how God is providentially rescuing his people as he promised.

Write: Are you in a situation like Esther? Has God brought you to a "such a time as this" moment? Write down ways you feel God is tugging at your heart to take action.

Sing: Listen to the worship songs from Sunday throughout the week. Look up the lyrics to each song and spend some time reading them as well.

Memorize: Esther 4:14

Love: Share with someone how God has providentially rescued you from Satan, sin, death, and hell.