

Called Week 1

Discussion Guide



Icebreaker

What's a movie, book, or real-life story where someone unexpectedly stepped up and made a huge difference? Why do you think stories like that resonate with us?

Read

Read Esther 4:10-17

Discuss

One of the most fascinating parts of Esther's story is that God's name is never directly mentioned in the book, yet His fingerprints are everywhere. Through unexpected people, unlikely circumstances, and perfect timing, God is quietly accomplishing His purpose. Esther's story reminds us that even when God seems silent, He is still working.

- **Why do you think God often works through ordinary or unlikely people?**
- **Mordecai and Esther both experienced moments that seemed random or coincidental. Have you ever looked back and seen God working through circumstances you didn't understand at the time?**
- **Why is it sometimes difficult to trust God when we cannot immediately see what He is doing?**
- **How can we become more aware of God working in everyday life?**

Esther faced a real dilemma. Speaking up could cost her her life. Yet Mordecai challenged her with the possibility that God had placed her exactly where she was for a purpose. Often, obedience to God requires courage before we know the outcome.

- **Who has played a "Mordecai" role in your life, someone who challenged or encouraged you spiritually?**
- **How can pride or self-protection keep us from obedience?**
- **Have you ever sensed God nudging you to speak up, step out, or take action in a difficult situation? What happened?**
- **What's one area of your life right now where God may be asking you to trust Him more fully?**

Before Esther acted, she prayed and fasted. She recognized that she could not control the outcome and needed God's wisdom and strength. Prayer was not her last resort, it was her first response.

- **How can prayer change our perspective even before circumstances change?**
- **What distractions most often keep you from spending intentional time with God?**
- **Esther invited others to fast and pray with her. Why is it important to involve community in difficult seasons?**
- **What habits or rhythms help you stay spiritually grounded during stressful seasons?**

Application

Esther's story reminds us that God works through ordinary people who trust Him, step out in faith, and respond courageously. Through Esther, Mordecai, and unexpected events, we see that God can use our voice, influence, and obedience to make a difference.

- **What is one opportunity God may already have placed in front of you?**
- **If you fully trusted that God was with you, what might you do differently this week?**
- **What would "living courageously" look like for you right now?**
- **Is there an area where God may be asking you to stop waiting and speak up courageously?**

Prayer

Spend time in prayer asking God to show you an opportunity where you can courageously make a difference.