



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

(Group leaders pick 4-5 questions to discuss as time permits)

What defining moments in history stand out to you? Why those?

What has been your biggest defining moment?

What other defining moments have occurred in Esther thus far?

In what ways is it easy for you to live the easy life vs. a purposeful life? How can Heb 12:2 help?

Read Esther 4:14. What do you think Mordecai meant when he asked Esther, *who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?* At what times have you felt that you had been put into a position or situation for a specific purpose?

What significance do you attach to Esther's directions to Mordecai in Esther 4:15-16? How can we learn from this situation today?

Read Esther 4:16. What do you think gave Esther the confidence in her decision? When have you felt that kind of clarity?

What does it mean to live by calling, not coincidence?

What does it mean to risk yourself rather than play it safe?

In what ways do you think your defining moments are less dramatic and occur more often than Esther's?



Guide – ESTHER: Defining Moments

Esther is beautiful, wise, and gutsy. Her beauty will prove irresistible to the most powerful king in the world. With wisdom she will outmaneuver a cunning manipulator. With guts, she will take her place in history and save the Hebrew people from sure annihilation.

OUTLINE & SCRIPTURES

Esther 4: Defining Moments

- 1. Defining moments are lived by those looking for a purposeful life, not an easy life.**

Esther 4:11-14; Ps 119:37; Heb 12:2; Luke 9:23

- 2. Defining moments are lived by those who look for calling, not coincidence.**

Esther 4:14; Ps 33:11; Eph 2:10

- 3. Defining moments are lived by those willing to risk themselves rather than play it safe.**

Esther 4:16-17; Mark 8:35