



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

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

Read Esther 8:3-6. What do you think it was like for Esther to go back to Xerxes with another “request?”

How is Xerxes answer to Esther’s request different that what she asked? When have you asked God for something that God gave you a different answer than you were expecting?

Xerxes’ decree providing Jews the right to defend themselves is months ahead of the actual date of the battle. What actions do you think would be appropriate and wise for them to have taken in that time? In what ways should Christians today be “getting prepared” for battle?

Read Esther 9 and ask the group for observations. In particular, ask the group what their opinions are of the Jews military actions? Do Christians have the right to protect themselves? What are the limits of that right?

The Jews were given the right to protect themselves, by King Xerxes. When was there a time that God showed you what you need to do instead of what someone else could do for you? How can we decide if God is calling us to action or asking us to wait on Him?

Esther risked her own life in approaching King Xerxes about rescinding his order to annihilate the Jews. What risks could God be asking the church to take in order to seek justice?

Have someone prepare a 5 minute presentation on Purim. Ask the group in what ways can Christians celebrate victory today? What are some things we should be celebrating that we’re not?

What has been your biggest take away from the Esther series?



Guide – ESTHER 8-10:

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 8-10. WRAP UP:

- 1. STEP UP**
Esther 8; Ps 44:6; Eph 6:10-18

- 2. CIRCLE UP**
Esther 9:1-2

- 3. PARTY DOWN**
Esther 9:28