

# Born for THIS!

Part 6 Esther 7  
Seeing God in the **UNUSUAL 2.0**

Three stories **COLLIDE** to save God's people

Esther's second dinner 7:1-6

- Esther's **CLEAR** request: vs. 1-3

*'Save my life and the lives of my people'*

- Esther's **COVERT** honesty vs. 4-6; Matthew 10:16

▶ Esther's accusation is **ACCURATE**

▶ Esther's request contains no **DEMANDS** or solutions

Haman's gallows for Mordecai 7:7-10

- God's ace up His sleeve: Esther's **ETHNIC** identity 2:10, 20
- God's ace up His sleeve: **HARBONAH** 2:21-23; 6:1-3
- God's justice & **VENGEANCE** for His people

What does this story teach us about God?

- There are no **SECRETS** kept from Him
- He always has an **'ACE UP HIS SLEEVE'** Isaiah 55:8-9
- His plans cannot be pushed aside; **SAVING** His people, or **HUMBLING** the proud

Auburn Grace Community Church – June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## Life Group Discussion Questions – June 6, 2021

**Esther 7:3** Then Queen Esther replied, "If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me as my request, and my people as my wish."

### DISCOVER (read Esther 7)

1. What are the events that led up to Queen Esther's second banquet for the king?
2. In verses 3-4, Esther makes her request known to the king. How can we say that her appeal was clear and articulate? Why was it important for Haman to be there to hear the request?
3. Where do we see the last indictment against Haman's character in this chapter? Who was Harbonah and why was he present?

### EXPLORE

1. How do you think Haman viewed Queen Esther? What was flawed in his assessment of her? Why do you think that is?
2. Why did preparing two banquets for the king and Haman work to Esther's advantage? What important lessons can we take away from this?
3. Compare and contrast the backgrounds of Esther and Haman. What does their relationship reveal about God's character, especially His sovereignty? Where might you see God working in a similar way in your life?

### EXPERIENCE

1. Most of us have spent time in God's "waiting room." We don't know how to proceed and are delaying any action until we know His direction. Have you ever been caught off-guard by His response? Did you hesitate to obey?
2. Proverbs 16:18 teaches us that "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before stumbling." Re-read Esther 6:13 and 7:8. Haman was indeed literally falling before Mordecai the Jew through Esther "as she lay on the couch." Has God sent someone to warn you about a prideful position or view you have taken? What specific steps must you take to heed the admonition?
3. Read Isaiah 55:8-9. There is absolutely no keeping secrets from God though we may act otherwise. Why is it that some believers aren't convicted by trying to keep things hidden from God? Are they not fearful that God will use their secrets against them? Does this say anything about their faith?
4. Have you ever seen God humble someone? How did they deal with the reprisal? How were they different as a result?

### PRAY/ACTION

Pray... that we become more and more inclined to bless others, knowing that blessing will return to us. Ask God to show you through His Word where you are in error in your relationships; to show you the ways you are hurting others; that He would give you names for you to pray over.

Action... What is one way you can bless an "enemy"?