



BIBLICAL **MENTORS**

Esther

WORSHIP

Read Psalm 103:1-12 aloud. Take a moment to reflect on God's Word and center in Him.

FELLOWSHIP

-Name a person you admire (friend, historical or literary figure, etc.). What is one thing about them you'd like to emulate?

-How are everyone's commitments going to PLEA (Pray, Listen, Engage, and/or Acknowledge)? How did everyone live out last week's sermon and discussion?

DISCUSSION

Discuss the questions below. If you're studying a book, RightNow Media series, etc., transition to discussion and try to include questions that address head, heart, and hands.

1. Have you ever had a mentor and/or been a mentor? [If not, is there someone you can ask?]

-What is one thing you've learned through that relationship?

-How do you understand the mentoring relationship and its importance, especially in our faith?

2. Paul urges us, "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:1).

-What is one thing you've learned from Christ's example?

-Have any other biblical figures been examples to you?

3. Read Esther 4:6-17.

-Imagine you are Esther learning of the plot to destroy the Jews. What might you be thinking and feeling?

-What does Mordecai's response (vv. 13-14) teach us about God and how He acts?

4. Is it possible that God has placed you where you are at this moment in history "for such a time as this" (v. 14)?

-How might this time of crisis provide an opportunity for you to glorify God?

-Is there something you need to do or change this week?

5. Find 20-30 minutes to read the whole Book of Esther this week. What does this story show you about God? What can you learn from Esther and/or Mordecai?

PRAYER

Ask for prayer requests; try to remember any needs that came up during the fellowship or discussion time. Check in on requests from last week, if you can. Does anyone have a practical need that another group member may be able to help with?

Pray for group, church, and community needs. Consider praying this prayer Pastor David Platt wrote in response to the story of Esther:

We pray, Oh God, help us today to see and trust your sovereign hand at work, even when we find ourselves in situations we don't want to be in. Help us to look for what you are doing there, and help us, use us as instruments in your hand for the accomplishment of your purposes. God, we pray that in every place we find ourselves today, in every conversation we just so happen to be in, every person we just so happen to encounter, God, we pray that you would use us for the accomplishment of your purposes, for the spread of your grace, your love, your mercy, your Gospel, today. God, we pray with joy, with confidence, with a sense of exhilaration that our lives are in your hands for the accomplishment of your purposes. So work in all the details of our lives, we pray, for the spread of your grace, for the spread of your glory. And in the process we trust, work in all the details of our lives for our good, just like you promise in Romans 8:28. We praise you for your sovereignty over all things. In Jesus' name. Amen.¹

¹ David Platt, <https://radical.net/podcast/699-the-sovereign-hand-of-god-esther-217/>.