

WEEK 4: Defining Moments (Esther)

INTRODUCTION

Esther was the most unlikely person to become queen of a very powerful nation, but God raised her to a position of authority at just the right time to make an incredible impact on the lives of many. Yet Esther had to have faith and trust in God in order to find the courage to risk it all and, in the end, she saved her people from annihilation.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What have been some of the most significant defining moments in your life?
2. In what way can you identify with Esther's perfect storm of fear and destiny?
3. Read Esther 4:10-17. What admirable characteristics do you see in Mordecai and Esther specifically relating to verse 14 and verses 16-17?
4. Read Esther 4:15-17. What gave Esther the needed courage to risk her life by appearing before the king? How did Esther involve other people to help? Do you have other people who can help you in similar ways?
5. John 15:13 talks about a willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice. How did that play itself out in Esther's experience, and how do you see that being practical for you?

MOVING FORWARD

A prayer: "Dear God, help me to become sensitive to the defining moments that You have orchestrated for me. Help me to step up, make a difference and become the kind of person who would say, 'I am going for it – no matter what'."

RELATED SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 13:1-6 (with special attention to verse 6)

Matthew 5:14-15