



Women of the Bible

Esther – For Such A Time As This

Lesson 14

As we study the life of Esther we will see how God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things. Esther was a Jewish orphan living in Persia and being raised by her cousin, Mordecai. As far as she was concerned she was invisible and her life was insignificant. But one unexpected day she was taken by King Xerxes to become a part of his harem. Instead of being one of many women, she finds favor with the king and he chooses her to be his queen. Of course this was no coincidence. As you read her action packed story you will see that there was a plot to kill the Jewish people and Esther turns out to be a key player in their deliverance. God was behind the scenes and working in her circumstances even when she couldn't see Him. Her story is a powerful lesson to us that no part of our lives is out of God's control. He uses all of our circumstances for His kingdom and His glory.

Open your Bible and begin with a word of prayer

This Week's Scripture: Esther 4:4-17

⁴So Esther's maids and eunuchs came and told her, and the queen was deeply distressed. Then she sent garments to clothe Mordecai and take his sackcloth away from him, but he would not accept them. ⁵Then Esther called Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs whom he had appointed to attend her, and she gave him a command concerning Mordecai, to learn what and why this was. ⁶So Hathach went out to Mordecai in the city square that was in front of the king's gate. ⁷And Mordecai told him all that had happened to him, and the sum of money that Haman had promised to pay into the king's treasuries to destroy the Jews. ⁸He also gave him a copy of the written decree for their destruction, which was given at Shushan, that he might show it to Esther and explain it to her, and that he might command her to go in to the king to make

supplication to him and plead before him for her people. ⁹So Hathach returned and told Esther the words of Mordecai. ¹⁰Then Esther spoke to Hathach, and gave him a command for Mordecai: ¹¹“All the king’s servants and the people of the king’s provinces know that any man or woman who goes into the inner court to the king, who has not been called, he has but one law: put all to death, except the one to whom the king holds out the golden scepter, that he may live. Yet I myself have not been called to go in to the king these thirty days.” ¹²So they told Mordecai Esther’s words. ¹³And Mordecai told them to answer Esther: “Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king’s palace any more than all the other Jews. ¹⁴For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father’s house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?” ¹⁵Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai: ¹⁶“Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will fast likewise. And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish!” ¹⁷So Mordecai went his way and did according to all that Esther commanded him. Should you want more information on Esther, read the complete book of Esther

This Week’s Memory Verse:

**And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God,
to those who are the called according to His purpose.**

Romans 8:28(NKJV)

1. No doubt Esther was terrified to approach the King without a summons; to do so could mean death for her. According to our memory verse, how can we apply this situation and others like it to knowing it will all work out for God’s purpose? _____

a. On a personal note, would you be willing to do whatever God asked knowing and trusting Him? Why or why not? _____

2. What encouragement does Romans 15:13 give us when going through difficult times for His purposes? _____

3. Peace is very important during times of difficulty. What does Jesus tell us in John 16:33 that can give you that peace? _____

Reflect and Respond – Esther 4:14 says; “For if you remain completely silent at this

time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father’s house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?” Have you ever been put in a position where you knew that you were there for a purpose ordained by God? Did you rise to the occasion or did deliverance have to come from another place? There is substantial blessing from obeying God and there is always forgiveness if you fail.

Please write your thoughts. _____

Result – Consider today’s bible study lecture. What one lesson will you take away from this

study and apply to your walk with the Lord? _____
