



ESTHER

THREADS OF SOVEREIGNTY & SACRIFICE

GETTING STARTED: POWER OF STORY

Stories are powerful; they can inspire, challenge, encourage, teach, and connect. The Book of Esther is a story that has stirred the mind and soul every year since it was written. This semester let's use our own stories to challenge, and encourage each other to grow.

1. Each week, choose someone to share a 5-minute story at your next gathering.
2. Consider having them follow one of these prompts:
 - When did you choose to follow Christ for the first time?
 - Describe a time of hardship when you experienced God's provision.
 - When was a moment you vividly remember celebrating God's goodness?
 - Has God answered a big prayer for you, or answered a prayer in a big way?

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures together and then use the questions below (or any you wish to add) to discuss the text and unpack its meaning.



Have someone in your group read **Esther 6-7**

- What stands out to you about today's verses?
- What context clues are you aware of that might help give you insight into Esther 6-7?
- Where do you see God's sovereignty at work in today's passage?
- How did Haman's wife and friends respond to Haman after he told them what happened? How does this response compare to their response in 5:14?

- Where do you see Pride and Humility on display in these passages?

GETTING PRACTICAL

1. What stands out to you **personally** about today's passage, Sunday's message, or your groups conversation?
2. Is there a difference between coincidence and God's providential work in your life? How can you discern between them?
3. How does the assurance that God notices our good deeds impact our daily lives and decisions?
4. Read Isaiah 30:18: What are your immediate thoughts upon realizing that justice is a characteristic of God?