

The Gospel in the Life of Esther

Discussion Questions

Date: August 2, 2020 / Scripture: Esther 2:19-3:15

- 1. Read Esther <u>2:19-3:15</u>. What stands out to you?
- 2. God is at work in the ordinary circumstances of everyday life (see Mordecai at his everyday job in 2:19-2:23). What are some aspects of everyday life that you've seen God work in the life of others? In your own life?
- 3. Many things that are outside of our control affect our lives. This was certainly the case with Mordecai when he got passed over for the promotion that went to Haman. Take some time to share things in your life that feel too big to control. What is your typical response? What does it look like to maintain hope even in the face of things that are bigger than you?
- 4. Persecution and injustice are key themes in this passage. Share together about injustices you see, as well as persecution of God's people. Spend about 5 minutes to pray together for the persecuted church and those facing regular injustice. (You can spend more time praying at the end, but take time now while it's fresh!)
- 5. Where do you see yourself in this passage? Thinking of Bigthan and Teresh (2:21), spend some time confessing together what your rebellion against the King looks like.
- 6. Read <u>Romans 5:1-11</u>. Consider the fate of Bigthan and Teresh (Esther 2:23). What does this passage in Romans promise to those who are enemies of God? Now, thinking concretely, what specifically can you, God's former enemy, do to invite those who remain under God's wrath to see their need for the gospel?

WORSHIP THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Here are some other ways you can meet with God throughout the week:

Reflect on these Scriptures:

- <u>Psalm 33</u>
- <u>Psalm 103</u>
- <u>Matthew 13:31-32</u>
- <u>Romans 5:1-11</u>
- <u>Ephesians 3:14-21</u>

Listen to the Esther worship playlist on Spotify

Reach out if you need assistance during this time:

- Call our church office at 703.821.0800
- Request aid from our Deacons' Fund at deaconsfund@mcleanpres.org

You can also find additional resources on our <u>website</u>.