

THE BOOK OF ESTHER

WELCOME / OPEN IN PRAYER

INTRODUCTIONS: Share the topic & takeaway this week from above

REVIEW FROM WEEK 2:

Has God revealed to you areas in your life that you can stand for Christ?

GOD-STORIES: A God-story is an undeniable encounter or experience with God that creates an impact or breakthrough in a person's day-to-day life.

REVIEW THE GUIDELINES: Share the guidelines to set the rails for group time

WEEK #4

TOPIC: God's invisibility is not his inactivity
TAKEAWAY: Don't Fight God, Follow God

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT | CONFIDENTIALITY | LISTEN | PAUSE | SILENCE | NO "CROSS TALK"
NO FIXING | NO RESCUING | SHARING | SELF AWARE | "I" STATEMENTS | CONFLICT**



ASK A THOUGHT-PROVOKING QUESTION TO GET THE GROUP FOCUSED

What is your favorite "underdog" movie or moment in a movie?

SHARE BACKGROUND AND PROVIDE CONTEXT TO THE BIBLE STORY.

In Chapter 5, Esther requests a meeting with the King and Haman.

Haman sees this as a significant honor but continues to rage against Mordecai and constructs gallows to hang him. Mordecai's faith seemed sealed, but not for God! In Eastern courts, there are scribes or officers whose duty is to keep a journal of every occurrence worthy of notice. It has been a custom with Eastern Kings through all ages to have the annals of the kingdom read to them. Reviewing the history of a ruler's kingship and his ancestors provided guidance and instruction for how the king would lead in the future. There was, therefore, nothing uncommon for King Xerxes, calling for this journal. Unable to sleep that night, the king ordered the book read to him. The text explicitly directed his attention to Mordecai's unrewarded services; the immediate sovereignty of God is distinctly visible.

AS A GROUP READ THE STORY (Esther 6-7)

INVITE EVERYONE TO ENGAGE BY BUILDING THE STORY.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) Which character in the story of Esther has God used to challenge you, convict you, or inspire you and why?
- 2) Like Mordecai, can you describe a time in your life when you felt overlooked and under-appreciated? What do you think God was teaching you during that time?
- 3) How does this phrase, "Don't Fight God, Follow God", directly impact your relationship with God?
- 4) _____
- 5) _____

ASSIGN NEXT WEEKS STORY: Curriculum will end for the 2022 year.
Groups Curriculum will be available January 8th !

ASK A VOLUNTEER TO CLOSE IN PRAYER.