



BEULAH FIRST BAPTIST

Rev. Felix L. Cole, Senior Pastor

Wednesday In The Word Roadmap – Esther

Series: Positioned for Purpose

Seeing God's Hand, Using God's Gifts, Serving God's Glory

Series Thesis:

God positions His people not for comfort but for contribution. The book of Esther shows us how Even when God seems hidden, His hand is guiding us to use our gifts, influence, and courage to serve His glory and others' good.

SERIES FLOW

Week	Focus / Text	Theme	Integration of Gifts & Service
1 – The God Who Works Behind the Scenes	Esther 1–2	Divine Positioning God is working even when unseen.	God gives everyone unique access, abilities, and opportunities. Even in obscurity, we prepare our gifts for when He opens the door.
2 – Mordecai Moments	Esther 2:19–4:14	Mentorship & Calling Godly relationships awaken purpose.	God uses mentors and truth-tellers to call out hidden gifts and activate your purpose. Mordecai nurtures Esther's courage and calling.
3 – If I Perish, I Perish	Esther 4:15–5:8	Courage Under Pressure Faith moves when fear says stop.	Courage is a spiritual gift expressed through obedience. God calls you to use what's in your hand — your voice, role, or position — to serve others.
4 – When God Turns the Tables	Esther 6–7	Divine Reversal God fights for His people in unexpected ways.	Gifts shine in adversity. Esther uses wisdom, timing, and discernment — all Spirit-inspired gifts — to influence outcomes that glorify God.
5 – Purpose That Outlives You	Esther 8–10	Legacy & Leadership God's purpose extends beyond one generation.	Your gifts aren't just for moments — they're for movements. When you serve God faithfully, your obedience leaves a legacy of liberation and joy.

SPIRITUAL PROGRESSION

Stage	Theme	Relational Focus	Gift Expression
Week 1	Preparation	God positioning you	Patience, faith, humility
Week 2	Activation	God using others to shape you	Encouragement, wisdom, discernment
Week 3	Obedience	God calling you to act	Courage, faith, leadership
Week 4	Breakthrough	God turning adversity into opportunity	Discernment, influence, timing
Week 5	Legacy	God expanding your impact	Service, generosity, mentorship

Focus: Esther – Positioned for Purpose

Week 1: Divine Positioning – God is working even when unseen

Introduction: The Book of Esther unfolds between Ezra 6 and 7 during a sixty-year gap between the rebuilding of the Temple and the return of Ezra and Nehemiah. While God was rebuilding His house in Jerusalem, He was also preserving His people in Persia. There are no miracles or prophets in this book, but God's hand is everywhere. Esther's story reminds us that when God seems silent, He is still sovereign. He is working behind the scenes to position His people for purpose.

Key Scriptures

- **Esther 2:9** – “The maiden pleased him, and she obtained kindness of him.”
- **Romans 8:28** – “All things work together for good to them that love God.”
- **Proverbs 19:21** – “Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.”
- **James 4:6** – “God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

1. GOD'S HAND IS STILL WORKING WHEN LIFE FEELS OUT OF CONTROL

Text: **Esther 1:10–12, 17, 19**

Providence Defined:

*God's sovereign, continual care over creation. It is His **unseen** hand guiding **visible** events.*

- “We know that all things work together for good...” — **Romans 8:28**
- “You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good.” — **Genesis 50:20**

Providence and Free Will:

- People make real choices, but God overrules outcomes for His glory.
- Vashti's defiance and Ahasuerus's decree were both human actions...yet God used them to set the stage for Esther's rise.
- “Many are the plans in a person's heart, but the Lord's purpose prevails.” — **Proverbs 19:21**

Application For Today: Even when decisions seem chaotic or unfair, **God is never out of control**. He works through (not in spite of) human choices.

2. GOD POSITIONS PEOPLE BEFORE PURPOSE IS REVEALED

Text: **Esther 2:5–9**

Esther begins as an orphan in exile. She's unseen, unknown, and unimportant, yet she is chosen by God to change history.

Mordecai's Role:

- He's not just a caregiver; he's a **divine connection**.
- God uses mentors, leaders, and truth-tellers to shape destiny.

Favor as a Sign of Positioning:

- “The maiden pleased him, and she obtained kindness of him.” — **Esther 2:9**
- Favor is not earned. Faith is entrusted.
God opens doors that obedience keeps open.

Application For Today: God may hide you before He highlights you. Always know you're not misplaced. You're being positioned.

"When you walk in obedience, you don't chase opportunity; opportunity chases obedience."

3. GOD PREPARES YOU BEFORE HE PRESENTS YOU

Text: *Esther 2:12–17*

Before Esther saw the king, she endured **12 months of preparation** (six months of purification and six of beautification).

Preparation Is Process, Not Punishment.

God refines you before He reveals you.

The Oil and the Perfume:

- **Oil of Myrrh (Purification):** cleansing and healing from the past (*Isaiah 1:25*).
- **Perfumes (Beautification):** developing the fragrance of grace (*2 Corinthians 2:15*).

Key Truths:

- God's waiting rooms are classrooms.
- Every delay is development.
- Esther's humility ("she required nothing extra") showed she trusted God's timing and not her own tactics.

"God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble." — **James 4:6**

When the Time Was Right:

"And the king loved Esther... and set the royal crown upon her head." — **Esther 2:17**

She didn't force her way into favor, Esther grew into it.

Application For Today: Waiting is never wasted when God is the one doing the waiting with you. Let Him purify, shape, and strengthen you for what He has planned.

LIFE APPLICATION

1. **Recognize** God's hand in ordinary moments.
2. **Rest** when plans shift; **providence** is still working.
3. **Respond** faithfully in your current position.
4. **Refine** your heart in preparation for what's next.
5. **Remember:** what God is doing *behind* you will make sense *ahead* of you.

PERSONAL REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Where can you see the evidence of God's unseen hand in your story?
2. What "Mordecai" relationships has God placed in your life for your growth?
3. What season of preparation might God be using right now?
4. How can you stay faithful in hidden seasons until God reveals your next assignment?