

God wants to make an impact in this world through your life.

[Ephesians 2:10](#) “10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

Has anyone ever told you? God has plans for your life! Yeah! I’m talking about you! There are things God created you to accomplish in this world, there are good works he prepared beforehand for you to walk in, Church!

The thing is, sometimes we have a hard time believing that. We look at the state of things around us, and the problems seem so big and out of hand that we can’t see how we could make a difference. We feel inadequate, we don’t feel like we’re enough! Is that just me, or have you been there too?

This isn’t an uncommon struggle. We’ve all felt that way. In fact, we’ll see today that there was a time when Esther felt that way.

[Esther 4](#)

4:1-4

- Mordecai is mourning, the people are mourning, Esther’s attendants tell her, and she’s also deeply distressed.

4:5-11

- Back and forth between Esther and Mordecai
 - Esther sends Hathach (a eunuch of the King) to find out from Mordecai the reason for all the mourning.
 - Mordecai tells him about the decree, the money Haman had promised to pay the king to destroy the Jews, gave him a copy of the decree to show Esther. He commands Esther to go to the king and beg for his favor on the Jews. (Esther, we have a BIG problem...and YOU’RE the answer! God has plans for your life!)
 - Esther replies. If I go to the king without being called by him, I could be put to death! (Even as queen!) And she hasn’t been called to go to the king in about a month.
 - Esther’s feeling inadequate to handle the situation her people have been placed in.

So then, Mordecai just tells her like it is.

4:12-14

- Mordecai just lays it out for Queen Esther.
 - She will not be safe from the order to destroy the Jews, though she is queen.
 - God will find a way to preserve the Jews, but Esther and her people under King Ahasuerus’ reign will die.
- Most famous line in Esther (End of v. 14)

- Mordecai says this. “And who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”
- Here’s what Mordecai is saying. “Esther, I think this is what you’re here for. This is *why* God put you on the throne in Persia! You were brought to the palace and given the position of queen for THIS MOMENT! God wants to use you to save his people, your people. You can either step up and take the risk, or you can play it “safe” and we’ll all die...Esther, God has very special plans for you! He wants to make an impact in this world through your life! Now what are you going to do about it?
 - See, here’s what Mordecai understood about God. We serve a God, church, who strategically locates his people in certain places, at certain times, and in certain situations to accomplish his will in this world!
 - Do you know what that means? It’s not an accident that you are alive in 2026, and not some other time. And it’s not an accident that you are here in Darke county, around the people in your circle, doing the job you do, with the specific people you work with. It’s not an accident that you’re here at THIS point in your family’s history. It’s not an accident that you’re dealing with the issues and problems here in this place at this time. It’s not an accident that you’re here at Castine Church!
 - *God created you for this moment in this place! (Job, school, neighborhood, family, friends, church, community). Not just to be here and make it to the next thing. God put you here because he wanted to do something through your life!*
 - God wants to make an impact in this world through your life. And as you look at the problems and challenges going on in the world around you... *Who knows whether you have come to this place for such a time as this?*
 - Graduating Seniors: As you step into whatever is next for you, and as you find yourself in new situations/environments you’re not there on accident.
 - Everyone else too, young or old alike. If you’re still drawing breath, God has a plan to use you in this world! Look for God’s purpose, look for the impact he wants to make through your life! Identify the problem that puts your stomach in knots that you could actually do something about...And then go after it! That’s what Esther did.

4:15-17

- Wow! Do you remember the last thing Esther had said to Mordecai? She had been doubting her ability to go to bat for the Jews because it could mean she’d lose her life! She wasn’t so sure!
- But, after Mordecai gave it to her straight, something changed.
 - As you read these verses you can almost see how the countenance of Esther must have changed.

I want to look closely at verse 16, where we see Esther’s response to God’s purpose for her. Look there again with me.

Verse 16.

In Esther’s response we see 3 realities we need to understand as we pursue God’s purpose for our lives.

When Esther steps up, determined to answer the call, to follow God's purpose for her life, what's the first thing she does? She tells Mordecai to gather all the Jews in Susa and hold a 3 day fast on her behalf.

Now, if you know your Bible, when God's people are fasting what else are they doing? Praying! This fast is Esther's way of saying, I can't do this on my own. I need God's intervention, God's protection, God's strength, God's provision, She needs him to show up! So she has all the people crying out to God for 3 days!

See, in calling the fast, Esther is admitting she can't fulfill God's purpose for her on her own strength. It's going to take an act of God for this to go well.

1. God will call you to do things you can't do on your own strength. (16)
 - a. Like Moses when he was called to lead Israel..., or Joshua when he was called to knock over Jericho!
 - b. [Zechariah 4:6](#) "6 Then he said to me, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts."
 - i. The only way that you'll be able to fulfill God's purpose in your life is by relying on Him!

We also see in Esther's response that she acknowledges the law of the land, but she answers to a higher law...She knows what could happen if she goes to the king unannounced, but there's a higher authority she's answering to!

"I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish."

2. In pursuing God's call, you answer to a higher law. (16)

[Acts 5:29](#) "29 But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men."

- As you pursue God's purpose for your life, remember who's really in charge. Though worldly powers are more immediately visible, their authority is temporary, and it pales in comparison to God.
- Maybe you'll be pressured at times to keep your faith silent.
- Maybe you'll be pressured to pursue worldly things, like your peers do.
- I don't know what exactly it will look like for you, but remember...As you pursue God's call, you answer to a higher law.

In Esther's response, we also see her willingness to lay her own life down for the sake of pursuing God's purpose of saving her people. "If I perish, I perish."

Church, this is the attitude we should have as we pursue God's purpose for our lives! Willing to lay it all on the line.

3. Living out God's call on your life will take sacrifice. (16)

- a. [Romans 12:1](#) "1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship."

- b. [Matthew 16:24](#) “24 Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.”
 - i. Have you ever heard how the Disciples died? Some were crucified, some died by sword/spear, some were beheaded, stoned, beaten, sawn in half, shot with arrows. John wasn't martyred but not because they didn't try. They laid it ALL on the line for the sake of God's purpose.
 - If we're going to pursue God's purpose for our lives, church, it will require sacrifice. I don't know if it will mean giving your life...maybe it will. Maybe it will mean sacrificing comfort, or status, money, or control, time, or any number of other things. But it will take sacrifice.

Church, God wants to make an impact on this world through your life. And you need to understand, you can't do it on your own strength. It's going to mean answering to a higher law. And it's going to take sacrifice.

It won't be easy to live out God's purpose for your life, but you'll never regret it. Jesus says in [Matthew 16:25](#) “25 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”

So to our graduates, to those who will graduate, and to the ones who've been there and done that...Whatever God calls you to, go all in! Take the leap! Don't hold back!

What a tragedy it would be to reach the end of your life, and look back only to realize you played it safe and missed God's purpose for your life.

Understand, there are challenges coming your way, there are issues God will call you to address, and change he'll lead you to effect in this world! And when the call comes, you'll have a choice to make. You can play it safe...or you could be like Esther and say, “could it be that God has put me here for such a time as this?”

God wants to make an impact in this world through your life. The question is, will you let him?