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February 9th class
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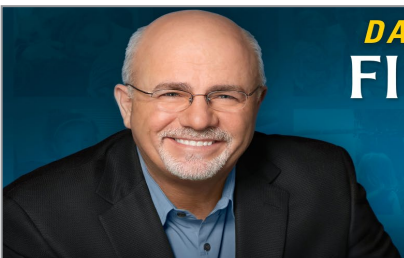
**PREMARITAL
CLASSES**

Beginning
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 7TH
at 6:30pm

For more information

PreMaritalClass@cop.church

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Week 4: PLANS > PLOTS

Ephesians 2:10; Esther 3, 4, 7

PREPARED TO WORK

When someone is born again, they are set apart by the Lord unto Himself. Knowing that reality leads to the freedom of being the people God has called us to be. Paul tells us in Ephesians 2:10 that we are God's *"workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them."* This means that when God created us, He also created the **"good works"** we are to do throughout our lives.

Esther, the woman and the queen, was a product of the hand of God. When the time came to walk in the work God had prepared for her, it is evident that she was initially unaware of her preordained calling/work and was literally ***afraid*** of it. After a convicting wakeup call from Mordecai (Esther 4:13-14), Ester enters a time of **prayer and fasting**, committing herself to God's will for her life (Esther 4:16).

GOD'S PLAN > ENEMY'S PLOTS

Haman, a high-ranking official in the Persian government was behind the plot to destroy the Jews (Esther 3:5-6). The decree of the enemy to bring destruction was devised, authorized and soon to be executed (Esther 3:8-15). What Haman didn't know was that the greater plan for deliverance, ***victory*** for the Jews, and defeat for the enemy was also prepared and ***authorized*** by God. All that was needed was the alignment of God's people to step into the good works.

After Esther took the first step of approaching the King and he spared her life, she continued to step into the prearranged good works which led the king to have

Haman *"hung on the gallows which he had prepared for Mordecai"* (Esther 7:10). This story gives us a clear example of the ***forethought*** and preparedness of God for His children.

FACTORPOINTS

Romans 8:28 says, *"God causes all things to work together for the good to those who love God, to those who are called [set apart] according to His purpose."* What does this look like in practice? Walking in the good works of the Lord despite the traps and landmines set by the enemy. No matter what comes against you, continue to LOVE THE LORD! He will unfold every step and all the grace needed to walk in victory.

HE'S HERE — WORSHIP

God is worthy of our praise and adoration for making us in His image and likeness and preparing good works for us to walk in. Worship God specifically for the "good works" of His hand.

HE KNOWS — LEARN

Review the verses covered in this teaching series. Look for other examples in scripture of God's people (His workmanship) stepping into "good works" prepared for them by God.

HE'S ABLE — SERVE

Despite fear and intimidation, walk in the acts of service (good works) God has prepared for you. Intercede for others, do acts of kindness and "know that God causes all things to work together for good". God's plan is always greater than the enemies plots (Jeremiah 29:11).