

# Group Discussion Guide

Week of September 25, 2022

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Esther 8:3-14 – Counteracting the Decree of Death

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- If this is your first meeting, go around and have everyone share their names, how long they've been in Colorado, and how they arrived here.
- Share a time you got to share some exciting news with someone. (*You got engaged, you were pregnant, you got the job you wanted, etc.*)
- What were some feelings you experienced as you shared this news.
- Why do you think it's difficult to keep exciting news to ourselves?

## QUICK REVIEW

Looking over your notes from this past teaching... was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

## MAIN POINT

***We have the most exciting news ever to share with people. There is a God. He loves you. He has made a way for you to be saved from eternal death.***

## DIGGING INTO THE WORD

*A law had been created which meant certain death for the Jewish people.*

### **Read – Esther 8:3-6**

- At this point, how hopeful does Esther seem for herself and other Jews?
- What actions and words show Esther's lack of hope in this situation?

### **Read – Galatians 3:10, Romans 3:23, and Ezekiel 18:20**

- What do these verses tell us is true for all people?
- What hope do we have, in and of ourselves?

### **Read – Esther 8:7-8**

- What is the king's response to Esther?

### **Read – Esther 8:9-13**

- What was the law Mordecai created to counteract the wicked law Haman had created?
- What was the hope the Jewish people now had?

*This new law gave the Jewish people the hope of passing from death to life.*

### **Read – Romans 5:18-19**

- What is the “new law” that gives us the ability to pass from death to life?

### **Read – Esther 8:14**

- How did the news spread of this new law that brought life to the Jews?
- What do you think would've happened if the couriers didn't do their job?

### **Read – Romans 1:16**

GOSPEL = GOOD NEWS

- Why do you think the Apostle Paul was not ashamed of the gospel?
- What are some reasons why Christians might be ashamed of the gospel?
- Are you a person who naturally shares the good news of Jesus with others?
- Have you ever had a negative experience of sharing your faith? What happened?
- Have you ever had a positive experience of sharing your faith? What happened?

### **Read – 1 John 3:13 and John 15:18-20**

- Why do you think God wants us aware that people might hate us if we share the good news of Jesus with them?
- How can remembering how good the news is, that we are saved from eternal death, help us to share our faith with other people?

**PRAISE REPORTS & PRAYER REQUESTS**