

CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE — WEEK 02

GLIMPSSES OF GOD

Let's Talk

How would you compare the person you were with the person you are today? Can you see God's hand shaping you over time?

Read Jeremiah 29:10-14.

A hundred years before Esther, these prophetic words were sent to the remainder of God's people who were exiled to Babylon. If you were one of the exiles, how would you feel?

Let's Study

Read Esther 2:1-4.

The king's anger and alcohol abuse led to actions he later wasn't satisfied with. As a result, his advisors proposed what?

Read Esther 2:5-9.

Who were Mordecai's ancestors (see also 1 Samuel 9:1)?

How are Mordecai and Esther related?

What else is noteworthy about their relationship?

What is the meaning of Esther's Hebrew name Hadassah? What is the meaning of the Persian name Esther? (google the answers if unknown)

How do you think having two identities would impact her?

Read Esther 2:10-11.

Why do you think Esther hid her Jewish identity? What does this tell us about the Persian society and the Jewish people in exile?

Read Esther 2:12-18.

How would you describe Esther in this chapter? Expect a change by the end of the book.

Read Esther 2:19-23.

Some would say 'Mordecai just happened to be at the right place and at the right time'. How would you respond to that statement?

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Lets Apply

The Sovereignty of God asserts that God is the supreme authority and all things are under His control. Is there any area(s) of your life that you are currently struggling to believe this?

Recall a time recently in which you have seen God at work. What makes you think it was God?

Pastor Jon referred to Matthew 5:14-16, saying good deeds bring glory to God. Ask God to bring to mind some good deeds you could do this coming week. Share with your group.

Let's Pray

Father, we pray that the light of Christ in our heart may shine brightly before others, in such a way that they may see the good works that we do in Your power and strength – and glorify You, our Lord and our God, in Jesus name we pray, AMEN.