

The Story: Chapter 20
The Queen of Courage and Beauty

Pastor Kevin Donoho
August 27, 2023

**DURING THE STORY SERIES, REMIX
CLASS SESSIONS WILL BE DIVIDED
INTO TWO SEGMENTS:**

- 1) THE STORY STUDY GUIDE
QUESTIONS CHOSEN BY THE
LEADER.**
- 2) THE FOLLOWING REMIX
QUESTIONS:**

Opening Discussion

- What thoughts, feelings, or impressions do you have about the sermon this week?

Thought #1: For such a time as this...

Read Esther 4:12-16

“When Esther’s words were reported to Mordecai, he sent back this answer: “Do not think that because you are in the king’s house you alone of all the Jews will escape. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?” Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: “Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.”

Mordecai wasn’t subtle in his challenge to Esther. “...if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise

from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish.

He then goes on to state “And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?”

Is there a specific difficult or unexpected place you currently find yourself? How does the perspective of “for such a time as this...” challenge that? How is God using your current circumstance to bring relief, deliverance, and salvation?

Thought #2: Even when we don’t see God...

Pastor Kevin reminded us on Sunday that throughout the book of Esther, God is never specifically mentioned. Not a single time. Yet, it’s clear we can see God visible throughout the story.

There are times in our lives when we cannot see God at work. Take a moment to reflect on a time or season where you could see the evidence of God at work after the fact. Share this with your group.

There are also times when we need others around us to see the work of God in our lives. In those places, we struggle to see how God is impacting us and others around us. Take time to affirm each other and share how you see God working and moving in their lives.

When we truly grasp God’s presence and His work in us, we can then go and impact others. Where is it that God is calling you to go right now? How is He calling you that He might use you? Share this with your group.

Thought #3: We are truly better together...

Read Esther 4:15-16

“Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: “Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.”

There are some important things to note from this passage. Number 1: We need each other! We are a family, and we are designed to do life together.

How has the community you are in been a support or an encouragement in times of struggle or hardship? How has God provided the right people in the right season for you? Share this with your group.

In the passage above we also see the importance of prayer. Together they fasted and prayed, longing to hear from God.

Pastor Kevin shared about his own circle that prays over him. Who is in your prayer circle? Who do you lean into to help cover you and enter into battle with you? Prayer is a reminder that we need something beyond what we bring to the table. It’s an invitation to God to come to the table with Him and receive what only He can bring.

What are you currently experiencing that you need to invite God into? What have you been hesitating to open up about to recognize the need beyond yourself? Consider inviting your group into this circumstance with you.

Thought #4: Our trust is in the Lord...

Revisit Esther 4:16

“Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.”

Even when she faced the most impossible of circumstances, she stood firm in what she believed. In the power of her God!

God had placed Esther in the right place for such a time as this. She trusted Him fully and confronted her fear to move forward with courage. And because of this, God used her greatly.

Reflect on each of these statements together as a group and share the meaning they carry for you:

- **God has a purpose for me for such a time as this.**
- **God is with me even when I struggle to see it.**
- **God designed us to live in community together. We are better together.**
- **God wants us to see Him first. We need to pray before we go.**
- **God is calling me to trust Him and move in courage.**

Questions for Pastor Todd Keller or Julie Burch regarding your REMIX group?

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***Remember to record your attendance for the week. Thank you.

How can we pray for each other this week?
