

## **SERMON NOTES AND SCRIPTURE**

### **Esther 4:9–17**

9 Hathak went back and reported to Esther what Mordecai had said. 10 Then she instructed him to say to Mordecai,<sup>11</sup> “All the king’s officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the king in the inner court without being summoned the king has but one law: that they be put to death unless the king extends the gold scepter to them and spares their lives. But thirty days have passed since I was called to go to the king.”

12 When Esther’s words were reported to Mordecai, 13 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. 14 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?”

15 Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: 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.”

17 So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther’s instructions.

- 1. God in his power chooses to use both the Esthers and Mordecais.**
- 2. God’s power has always been at work in your life whether you’re able to recognize it or not.**
- 3. Our mission is urgent, and God’s power is available.**

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## **GROUP DISCUSSION**

**As you read the story from the book of Esther what do you think was the most pivotal moment?**

**Even though God is not mentioned in Esther, where do you see him at work?**

**Put yourself in Esther's shoes, what would you have done?**

**Where is the Lord calling you to rely on his power right now?**

**What does the story of Esther reveal about the heart of God?**

**Share a way you can apply that truth this week.**

**How can our life group pray for you?**