

1. GOING DEEPER

Esther 4: – 5:8

1) a) What was Mordecai’s first (or immediate) response to Haman’s threat against him and his people?

b) What was the significance of him responding in the way he did?

c) What does this tell us as Christians about how we ought to respond to trials (our default response)? Provide supporting Scriptures _____

2) a) Mordecai tells Esther that if she attempts to save her life, she will lose it. Jesus tells the people and His disciples a similar thing in Mark 8: 35, compare these two passages.

b) Considering the developments of the Book of Esther to this point, how does Mordecai’s response to Esther in vs 14c reinforce the biblical principle of God positioning people for purpose?

c) Mordecai was confident the Jews would be delivered (Esther. 4:14). What point was he reinforcing to Esther?

3) a) What similarities do we see in the life of Joseph of God positioning someone for His purpose (Genesis 37 and on)

b) Name at least two other persons in Scripture who God similarly positioned

c) Discuss how, as Christians, we are also positioned in many ways to be used by God. Give examples.

2. ASSESSMENT

1) To what extent do you recognize that God has positioned you for His purpose?



I believe that I am where I am due to hard work and smart choices



I believe that my *secular job* is separate from my *ministry*



I am convinced that God has placed me where I am for his divine purpose



2) What can you do to elevate God’s *purpose* over your *position*?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

3. APPLICATION

Of the list above, which one(s) will you be intentional about working on this week?

_____. I will ask _____ to hold me *accountable* in this.

Key Verse

Esther 4:14 (ESV)

“For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will come from another place, but you and your father’s house will perish. And who knows whether you have come to kingdom for such a time as this?”

Sermon Main Points

Sermon Highlights

God *positions* people for *purpose* and as such believers should...

- 1 Assume the *position* of *brokenness*
- 2 Engage In *meaningful Conversations*
- 3 Elevate *Purpose* Over *Position*
- 4 Prepare and *Execute* God's *Purpose*

- 1 Being in the kingdom was Esther's position, but being the voice that brings deliverance was her purpose.
- 2 Never allow your position to distract you from your purpose
- 3 Esther's preparation was not *only* spiritual, it was also physical

God has positioned you where you are so that He can use you to execute His divine plans

5 Day Study Plan ("Study to show yourself Approved unto God...")

Day 1

1 Peter 2: 9

What I learned (observation / interpretation):

How I will Respond (application):

Day 2

Acts 13: 36

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Day 3

Job 42: 1 – 2

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Day 4

Isaiah 46 10 – 11

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Day 5

Exodus 9: 16

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Inductive Bible Study Method



Observation (What does the text say?)

This phase is about observing exactly what the text is saying.

Pretend you're an investigator who's just gathering the facts. Ask yourself the five W's and H: (Who, what, where, when, why, how).



Interpretation (What does the text mean?)

Discover what the author is trying to communicate. And to do this, you need to look at the context to determine

- 1 What is the **main theme** and what is the **meaning** of key words;
- 2 Examine **cross references**
- 3 Compare **translations**
- 4 **Summarize** the text
- 5 **Use** commentaries (last resort)



Application (How should this affect Me?)

Don't study the bible just for knowledge – study for application. If you stop at the interpretation stage, you are selling yourself short. Based on what you have learnt, ask yourself "How should this change the way I think, speak and behave?"

Seek to identify if there are - **Sins** to confess; **Promises** to claim; **Examples** to follow; **Actions** to obey or **Knowledge** to grow in.

For best results, this content should be read and prepared privately and then discussed in your small group or with family / friends. We were not created to do life alone - get engaged today.