

1. GOING DEEPER

Esther 9:20 - 10:3

1a) Esther 9:22 tells us that Mordecai initiated the feast of Purim. What was the significance of the name of the feast and what was its importance?

b) Why was it important to celebrate the feast of Purim throughout the ages and not just as a one-time celebration

c) ? Why is recording what God has done in our lives so important? Why should these acts be passed on to future generations?

2a) Why is our testimony a key component of being a Christian? (Refer to Revelation 12:10-12)

b) What verses can be used as encouragement while going through testing times? Why is reciting scripture helpful while going through tests?

c) The Bible is full of examples of seemingly unworthy people, who were used by God. What lessons can we learn from these examples? How can these examples be an encouragement while we are being tested?

3a) There are many examples in the Bible of people overcoming great odds to enjoy great victories. Discuss some of the lessons you have learnt specifically from the book of Esther.

b) Although the name of God was not mentioned throughout the book of Esther, the hand of God was evident, discuss the instances where God's hand was at work behind the scenes.

2. ASSESS YOUR LIFE

1) To what extent do you trust God while going through your period of testing?



2) What can you do to have greater trust in God during these times?

- 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 9: 20 – 22 (ESV)

“And Mordecai recorded these things and sent letters to all the Jews... obliging them to keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same year by year, as the days on which the Jews got relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and gifts to the poor”

Sermon Main Points

Sermon Highlights

God determines our testimony and as such we should:

- 🌟 Be cognizant of God's Mighty Acts
- 🌟 Commit yourself to honoring God's instructions
- 🌟 Avail yourself to be used by God

- 🌟 Your test is a set up for your testimony. When you are facing oppression, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord. (Exodus 14:13-15)
- 🌟 When we commit to honoring God's instructions it requires more than just personal application of the Word, we also need to pass it on to those who come behind us.
- 🌟 Trust God as He takes you through the various tests of life. Endeavor to see the sovereign God, always working on our behalf and behind the scenes.

Your Tests Make way For Your Testimony

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

Day 1

2 Corinthians 12:9

What I learned (observation / interpretation):

How I will Respond (application):

Day 2

Isaiah 43:19

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Day 3

Romans 8:31

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Day 4

Proverbs 19:21

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Day 5

Proverbs 16:9

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

- 🌟 What is the **main theme** and what is the **meaning** of key words;
- 🌟 Examine **cross references**
- 🌟 Compare **translations**
- 🌟 **Summarize** the text
- 🌟 **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.

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