

Life Group STUDY GUIDE

What you will need to supplement this guide:

1. A copy of the outline provided for notes on this message (copy from message or downloaded from the COASTAL APP.
2. A Bible or Bible APP to refer to verses.

PURSUING LIFE TOGETHER SUNDAY MESSAGE REVIEW

NOTE to the Life Group Leader: This guide is provided as a tool to assist you in facilitating a structured discussion with your group. When used in conjunction with the outline notes and a Bible this tool will ensure that your group will *Engage Authentically*. The questions are merely recommended “talk starters”. It is important for you to let God help you navigate through the conversation as you *pursue life together* as a group.

OPEN IN PRAYER

STARTER QUESTIONS:

Where have you seen God at work in your life since we last met?

What stood out to you from the message this week?

MAIN IDEA:

- REVIEW THE MAIN TOPIC OF THE MESSAGE. Allow time for discussion
- READ THE MAIN SCRIPTURE FROM THE MESSAGE OUTLINE.

How did this verse speak to you in your life?

- REVIEW THE SUB-TOPICS of the MESSAGE.

Have someone read each of the verses that were highlighted in the message, and briefly discuss.

Is there an area that you feel God is speaking to you through this message?

FINAL THOUGHTS:

- SUMMARIZE the main idea of this message.

Would anyone like to share your thoughts about what we discussed today?

How can we pray for you as a group?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

ESTHER
"Shallow Living versus Soul Life"

"Xerxes, who ruled over 127 provinces from India to Sudan..., held a banquet in the third year of his reign. The banquet was for all his officials and advisers, that is, the military officers of the Persians and Medes, the nobles and officials of the provinces who had access to him. He showed them the enormous wealth of his kingdom and the costly splendor of his greatness for many days, 180 to be exact." Esther 1:1-4 (GW)

Obsession with success

"On the seventh day when the king was drunk on wine, he ordered... the seven eunuchs who served under King Xerxes, to bring Queen Vashti in front of the king, wearing her royal crown. He wanted to show the people, especially the officials, her beauty, because she was very attractive. But Queen Vashti refused the king's command... As a result, the king became very angry, and his rage burned inside him." Esther 1:10-12 (GW)

Obsession with status

"Each young woman had her turn to go to King Xerxes after she had completed the required 12-month treatment for women. The time of beauty treatment was spent as follows: six months using oil of myrrh and six months using perfumes and other treatments for women." Esther 2:12 (GW)

Obsession with beauty

How do you follow God in a world where who you are is how you look on the outside?

Assessment Questions:

1. To what degree do I treat people on the basis of looks, success or status?

1—2—3—4—5—6—7—8—9—10

2. Where am I spending more of my time: cultivating my outer self or my inner soul?

1—2—3—4—5—6—7—8—9—10

3. Am I learning to see myself as God sees me?

1—2—3—4—5—6—7—8—9—10

How God sees me:

- I am loved (Jeremiah 31:3)
- I am strong (2 Corinthians 12:9-11)
- I am held (Psalm 37:24)
- I belong to Him (1 John 4:4)