Pathways

WEEK ONE

THE SECURITY OF SOVEREIGNTY

OPEN

How do you respond when you feel that life isn't going the way you hoped or planned?

DISCUSS

As you heard Dr. Evans teach on Esther 1:1-2:18, what stood out to you?

Dr. Evans said God often "zigzags to our purpose." When has God taken you on an indirect path to accomplish His will in your life? How did you respond to those twists and turns?

What might we miss if God only worked in ways that we expected or make sense to us?

If you're being honest, what aspects of God's sovereignty make you uncomfortable?

Read Isaiah 46:9-10. List 3 comforts that you can take as a believer in knowing that God is sovereign.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- **9** Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. **10** I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.' **ISAIAH 46:9-10**

Esther was unaware that she was part of God's divine plan. In what ways is God's providence a reason for hope?

God used Esther's physical beauty to draw the attention of the king. How does God use our natural talents and ability to further His providence? What is an example from your own life?

Recall a time when you felt worried or anxious about a certain direction that life had taken, yet in hindsight, you saw that God's hand directed your circumstances all along. What did you learn through that experience?

APPLY

In recent months, how have you sought to control the circumstances in your life? What can you do this week to trust God's hand and God's plan with that circumstance?