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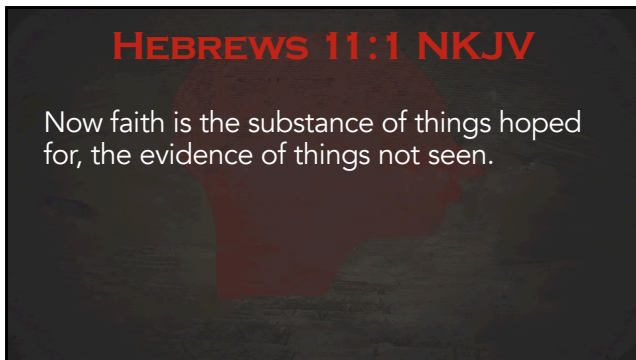
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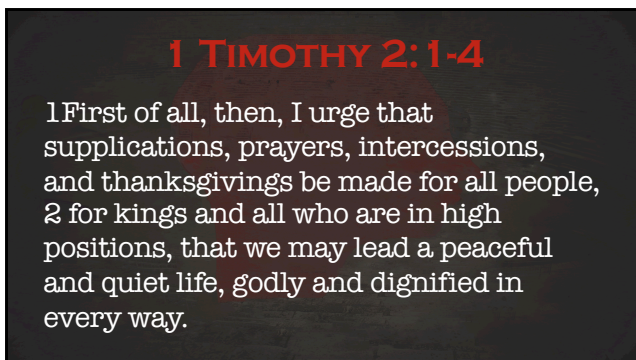
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**1 TIMOTHY 2:1-4**

3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

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**INTERCEDE**

Intervene on behalf of another.

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**Faith intercedes  
in a time of crisis**

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**BACKGROUND**

Times of restoration during Nehemiah and Ezra  
Most the Children of Israel are still in exile in  
Babylon  
Esther 515 BC, 510 BC Banquet  
Daniel similar to the book Esther  
  
Raised to prominence by attracting favor of God  
and then given favor with the king  
Esther had charm and influence without  
prophetic awareness of her true calling

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

1 When Mordecai learned all that had been done, Mordecai tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and he cried out with a loud and bitter cry.

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

2 He went up to the entrance of the king's gate, for no one was allowed to enter the king's gate clothed in sackcloth.

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

3 And in every province, wherever the king's command and his decree reached, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting and weeping and lamenting, and many of them lay in sackcloth and ashes

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

4 When Esther's young women and her eunuchs came and told her, the queen was deeply distressed. She sent garments to clothe Mordecai, so that he might take off his sackcloth, but he would not accept them.

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

5 Then Esther called for Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs, who had been appointed to attend her, and ordered him to go to Mordecai to learn what this was and why it was.

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

6 Hathach went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king's gate, 7 and Mordecai told him all that had happened to him, and the exact sum of money that Haman had promised to pay into the king's treasuries for the destruction of the Jews.

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

8 Mordecai also gave him a copy of the written decree issued in Susa for their destruction, that he might show it to Esther and explain it to her and command her to go to the king to beg his favor

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

and plead with him on behalf of her people. 9 And Hathach went and told Esther what Mordecai had said. 10 Then Esther spoke to Hathach and commanded him to go to Mordecai and say,—

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

11 “All the king’s servants and the people of the king’s provinces know that if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law—

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

to be put to death, except the one to whom the king holds out the golden scepter so that he may live. But as for me, I have not been called to come in to the king these thirty days.”

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

12 And they told Mordecai what Esther had said. 13 Then Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, “Do not think to yourself that in the king’s palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews.

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

14 For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

15 Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai,

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

16 "Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my young women will also fast as you do. Then I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish."

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### THE RELUCTANT HEROINE

Mordecai and others played a vital role in encouraging and exhorting a reluctant Esther to understand and accept her role as champion of the oppressed.

Mindsets are barriers or bridges to favor

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### FAITH INTERCEDES

1. Born to face challenges together

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### DISCOVER OUR DESTINY TOGETHER

Person	Role
Mordecai	Prophetic awareness, Dissident, Educator, Exhorter
Esther	Relational Influencer, Peace seeker, Role model
Haman	Hatred Driven Politician, Tyrant
Ahasuerus	Clueless Politician
Hathach	Reconciler, Communicator
Jews	Support and Encouragement

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**OBSTACLES PART OF LIFE**

For a long time it had seemed to me that life was about to begin - real life. But there was always some obstacle in the way. Something to be got through first, some unfinished business, time still to be served, a debt to be paid. Then life would begin. At last it dawned on me that these obstacles were my life. -Fr. Alfred D'Souza

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Faith intercedes  
in a time of crisis

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**BORN FOR THIS**

- 1. Born to face challenges together
- 2. Born for a unique and vital role

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### MORDECAI

- 1. Raised awareness of the Problem
- 2. Explained Relevance of the Problem
- 3. Compelled Esther to Own the Problem

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### EXPLANATION - MOTIVATION

Levels of Mordecai's Message:

- 1. Explanation
  - What was happening?
  - How to Respond?
- 2. Motivation
  - Why it is important?

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### INSPIRED BY A MORDECAI

- 1. Refused to allow Esther to be an orphan
- 2. Refused to join in attacks on the king
- 3. Refused to bow to the enemies of God
- 4. Refused to bow to public pressure
- 5. Refused to give up and face certain death
- 6. Refused to allow Esther an easy out

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### BRACE OURSELVES

Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duties, and so bear ourselves that, if the British Empire and its Commonwealth lasts for a thousand years, men will still say, "This was their finest hour!"

-Winston Churchill

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Faith intercedes  
in a time of crisis

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### BORN FOR THIS

1. Born to face challenges together
2. Born for a unique and vital role
3. Born for such a time as this

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**ESTHER 4:1-16 ESV**

14 For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. **And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?**

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**2 CORINTHIANS 6:2**

2 For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

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**CHANCE TO DO A VERY SPECIAL THING**

"To each there comes in their lifetime a special moment when they are figuratively tapped on the shoulder and offered the chance to do a very special thing, unique to them and fitted to their talents.

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**CHANCE TO DO A VERY SPECIAL THING**

What a tragedy if that moment finds them unprepared or unqualified for that which could have been their finest hour."

-Winston Churchill

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Faith intercedes  
in a time of crisis

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**FACE 2 FAITH**

**STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS**

Faith Faces Challenges



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