

GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

Pray the Lord's Prayer together or individually to begin the time (Mtt 6:9-13).

Share with the Group: Pastor Adam named some of the ways people tend to react to challenging situations (action, feeling, overthinking, withdrawing, etc.). How do you tend to react? What are your go-to moves? Any funny stories about times your default tendencies didn't serve you well?

In your own words, summarize the story of Esther chapters 1-3.

Read Esther Chapter 4

How would you summarize the big idea(s) of this chapter?

Where do you see God in this chapter?

What questions does this chapter bring up for you?

Consider Mordecai - begin by carefully observing what he does and doesn't do.

Why does he act the way he does in this chapter?

What are the possible consequences of his actions?

Whose attention is he trying to get?

Why does he refuse to go in to see Esther?

What does he think is going to happen?

How is he a model for us as Christians?

Consider Esther - begin by carefully observing what she does and doesn't do.

Why doesn't she know what's going on? Why does this matter?

What threats and obstacles does she face? How serious are they?

How does her role in the story begin to change in this chapter?

What other Old Testament characters does she remind you of?

How is Esther a model for us as Christians?

Reflect on the sermon - Pastor Adam outlined 4 steps to follow when facing problems: Pray, Unite, Trust, Participate.

Which of these do you tend to do most naturally? Which are hardest?

Do you think the order of these steps matter? Why/why not?

How can you take practical steps of growth in living these out?

Close by reading **Psalm 124** as a prayer and praise

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