

## GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

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

**Share with the Group:** Haman went to the worst dinner party of his life. What was the all-time worst dinner party you ever went to? What made it so bad?

**Read Esther Chapter 7** - But first, summarize ch 1-6 in your own words

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

Where do you see God in this chapter?

Where do you see various reversals taking place?

Where do you see Old Testament connections and hyperlinks?

What questions does this chapter bring up for you?

**Think Big** - At this point in the Esther story Haman is defeated and salvation seems to be on its way. But within the even larger biblical story, God's people are still in exile, ruled by Persia, and suffering the consequences of past sin.

How does Haman's defeat create hope for an even larger victory?

How does this relate to our reality living in the now-but-not-yet of the Kingdom (the time in between the Cross and the Second Coming)?

**Reflect on the Sermon** - Pastor Adam talked about how Esther and Mordecai live out Jesus' teaching on being shrewd as serpents & innocent as doves (Mtt 10:16)

What does it mean to be shrewd as a serpent?

What does it mean to be innocent as a dove?

Where do you see Esther and Mordecai behaving in these ways?

How do they manage the tension between the two?

Are there any places where they seem to go too far?

Consider each of the following areas of life and talk through practical examples of what it looks like to live as a sheep who is both shrewd and innocent:

Relationships -

Media Consumption -

Finances -

Business -

Evangelism -

Other -

**Close** by reading **Psalm 2** as a prayer and praise

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