

Life Group Questions
The Story - Chapter 20
Sermon Title: 'Such a Time as This'
March 14, 2010

Introduction Questions

- Do you believe that God has you in certain places at certain times for certain purposes? Why or Why not?
- Was there a part of the message or scripture passage this week that was particularly important or meaningful to you? If so, what?

Read: Esther 4:4-17

Understanding the Text Questions

- What is Esther's response to the news about Mordecai?
- What did Mordecai tell Hathach to tell Esther?
 - Why is she hesitant?
- According to Mordecai, why is Esther trapped?
 - What rationale does Mordecai give as to why Esther should go to the king?
- What does Esther tell Mordecai to do before she goes to the king?
- Esther ends up going before the king to ask for help. Why do you think she does it?

Application Questions

- One of the things we've been looking at during this series is the level of assimilation that the exiles have done in their state of exile. Has Esther assimilated too much? Why do you think this?
 - On a scale stretching from 1 being totally distinct to 10 being totally assimilated, how assimilated are you in the culture that you live in?
 - Why is it hard to be distinct?
- Does Esther identify with her people in this passage? When? How?
 - Why is it hard for us to identify with people who are different (or far away) from us?
- Why might God have you in the places you're in at this certain time? Why might God have you in the lives of the people you're around?

♥ Please pray for peace for the World Vision organization. This past week, six staff members were killed in a brutal, senseless, and unexplained attack on the offices in Pakistan. Additionally, eight employees were hospitalized with injuries after the unprovoked assault by gunmen. World Vision's work in Pakistan is conducted by local citizens who were seeking to improve the lives of people affected by poverty and disasters. As World Vision mourns their colleagues, they are asking us to join them in praying for the families of the staff members and the people they serve in Pakistan, including those who respond to kindness with violence.

♥ Please pray for the *Servant Partners* team working in the East side of San Antonio as they seek to share the love and hope of Christ directly with their neighbors in a community setting. There is a new potential teammate living in the girls' home. Please pray for God to show her if that is where He desires for her to serve more permanently. Please also pray for God to continue directing the team's vision for neighborhood and personal transformation as they grow closer to Jesus Christ.