

groups

Message-based Study

Message Series: "Courage for your Calling" Teacher: Rev. Billy Burch

Video is available online at: visitccc.com

Connection

Have you ever received a gift made by someone? How did it make you feel?

Content:

"God is even in control of the dice"

What does this statement say to you?

Prayer produces courage and wisdom.

1. People had been praying and fasting for 3 days before Esther approached the King to save Mordecai and the Jewish people.

Reading Esther 5:1-8, how did Esther go about asking the king her request after she finished praying? What surprised you?

Providence undergirds prayer.

2. (Esther 6:2-3) Years before, Mordecai had saved the kings life and this is now recognized by the king.

Reading Matthew 7:7-8 and Romans 8:28, how do these verses speak to you about your prayer?

Humility and pride generate respective results.

3. (Esther 7:1-4) At the second banquet, Esther makes her request, and her people are saved.

Read 1 Peter 5:5b-6 and Jeremiah 9:23-24, if you're willing to share, how do you need humbling in your life?

God choses people to accomplish His purpose.

4. (Esther 8:7-12 and 8:16-17) The Jewish people are still going to be attacked, however now they have been given the authority to defend themselves and they rejoiced.

Reading Philippians 2:12-13 and reflecting on the book of Esther, how has God led you through a dark time to then place you in the perfect place to serve Him?

Celebrating what God had done is paramount to a healthy life.

5. Esther 9 talks of the celebration of the people over their victory.

Read Psalm 9:1 and take a moment as a group and celebrate God. What is God doing in you or around you that you would want to celebrate?

Favor is placed upon the righteous.

6. (Esther 10:1-3) Mordecai is shown favor for his actions.

Here is a man who knew who to follow and he continued to "work for the good of his people and their welfare and their descendants." God noticed this and showed him favor. Take a moment and think of how God has shown you favor in the past, and how can you pay it forward for His glory?

Commitment

Mordecai and Esther had obedience and faith in the Lord, and they helped make the world brighter because of it.

7. How can you this week, as Jesus disciples help to make the world brighter or to share His gospel with others?

Begin with prayer. Listen with care. Eat / Engage with another. Serve. Share your story.

If you feel led this week, **Eat / Engage with another.** Often you can go deeper with a friend by sharing some uninterrupted time with them.

Who is someone new you can be keeping in B.L.E.S.S? Would you like to share any updates with the group on someone you have shared about in the past?