

GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

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

Read Esther Chapter 9-10- But first, summarize ch 1-8 in your own words. . .

How would you summarize the big idea(s) of these chapters?
Where do you see parallels and reversals from earlier in the story?
Where do you see God in these chapters?
What questions do these chapters bring up for you?

Make some Old Testament Connections!

In 9:4 the text deviates from calling Mordecai "the Jew" to calling him "the man Mordecai." This title is unusual in scripture, but is also used of Moses in Exodus 11:3. Explore what connections and meaning might be there.

Why is the connection to King Saul's story important? What does it teach us about God? What does it teach us about ourselves?

Fun fact! The word used for "rest" in ch 9 is "Noah" - where do you see thematic links between the Esther story, the Noah story, and God's Big Story?

Where do you see other Old Testament connections and hyperlinks?
Why is it important to look for the "hyperlinks" in scripture?

Think Big - One of the themes of these chapters is celebration. Why is celebration an important part of life? What is the role of celebration in worship and discipleship? Is it something God values? If so, how can we grow into making it a more regular part of our individual and corporate lives?

Reflect on the Sermon - Pastor Adam talked about how the story of Esther reflects the much bigger story of God and the world.

How does the Esther story "replay" or point back to the Creation Story?
How does it "replay" or point back to Israel's story leading up to Esther?
How does the Esther story ring true to our individual every-day stories?
How does the story of Esther point forward to Jesus?

Reflect on the Series

What does the book of Esther teach us about looking for, and finding, God both in the scriptures and in our everyday lives?

What is one thing you are taking away from this series and want to remember?

Close by reading **Isaiah 63:7-9** as a prayer and praise

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