



Victory Week 1

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INTRODUCTION

Esther is chronologically the last book in the Old Testament. We don't know who the author was, although some believe it is Mordecai, a character we meet early in the book. It is a book that tells the historical story of a Jewish teenage girl and a much older spoiled king who is the most powerful man in the world. Esther is the only book in the Bible that never mentions God but shows that He never gives up on us – NEVER!

Ice-Breakers

1. Before the message on Sunday, what were your impressions, thoughts, or knowledge of the book of Esther?
2. Share about a time that you were "completely out of your comfort zone" or in unknown circumstances.

Big Idea: Esther is a story about being caught up in ugly and uncontrollable evil forces.

Sermon Discussion Questions:

Before Beginning, you might want to read chapters 1 & 2 of Esther.

3. Esther, a 13 year-old girl, was taken from her home by soldiers to live at the palace of a king of an opposing enemy nation. An action that had to be scary and traumatic. What are some circumstances in our current world that remind you of this?
4. Pastor Robby made the point that "Xerxes, more often than not, is us." This might sound harsh, but consider that we are all born in sin and struggle with pride, selfishness, gluttony, and many other sins that social media makes even easier to feed. How do you think you would react if you had all the wealth and power Xerxes did?
5. Share about a time you were in an ugly or uncomfortable situation where you didn't see or feel God was near? Do you feel God was involved all the way through? How did your feelings change as you went through the event?
"No matter what happens, never stop believing that God is in control."
6. At the beginning of this story, Esther is a victim. She was taken from her home as part of human-trafficking and would have everything stolen from her at King Xerxes' palace. But here's the important thing: "Your past has never determined your future. God does!" Share one way that God has brought you through something you never would have imagined being able to accomplish or endure.

Final Takeaways:

"You can't always see the end from the middle."

"God is never surprised by our circumstances, no matter how bad it looks."

What are some ways we can encourage each other to trust when we are in a place that we don't see or feel God at work?

Share prayer time together.