

Community Group Discussion Guide

Sunday, January 12, 2025

Scripture: Esther 4:13-14



THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

As the people of God experience persecution and exile, God continues to work in their everyday actions and reactions for his good purposes, leading to his glory and the preservation of his people.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION *(Use along with Reading: Ante Faciem Dei)*

1. Where and when did the account of Esther take place (Esther 1:1, Daniel 7:4-5)? How does it fit within the context of the rest of Scripture, and how does it contribute to God's redemptive story?
2. What were the similarities between the circumstances of God's people during the time of Esther and those living in 1st-century Israel?
3. Discuss the following reasons Esther is profitable for us today.
 - a. Along with all of Scripture, Esther is given by God to help us grow in Christlikeness.
 - b. Esther teaches us how we, like our ancestors, should live in exile.
 - c. Esther teaches us to live faithfully when we don't see or feel God's presence.
 - d. Esther teaches us to embrace God's sovereignty.
4. Although God is not directly mentioned, how do we know God was present and working during the time of Esther?
5. What's the aim and purpose of the book? How does it point to Jesus (Esther 4:14)?
6. What do you hope to learn from this study of Esther?
7. Do you regularly contemplate God's sovereignty? How does this truth affect how you live within the mundane aspects of life and in hardship?