

# Community Group Discussion Guide

Sunday, February 2, 2025

Scripture: Esther 1:10-22



## THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

The sinful use of power leads to the destruction and exploitation of others, but God's power, demonstrated in Christ as King in the gospel, leads to salvation and joy.

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

1. What was King Ahasuerus hoping to achieve by publicly parading his wife, and what influenced his decision (verses 10-11)? What does this teach us about worldly power?
2. Contrast the Bible's teaching about marriage with King Ahasuerus' behavior (Genesis 2, Ephesians 5:22-33.)?
3. Have you been forgotten, neglected, or mistreated? How does the gospel meet us there and heal us by removing our shame (Revelation 12:10; Colossians 2:15)?
4. How does King Ahasuerus respond when Queen Vashti refuses (verse 12)? Why do you think she refused? Why is the text silent about her reason(s)?
5. Like the king in this passage, why does authority usually respond with anger?
6. Share a time when you overreacted to an offense and mistreated others. When wronged, do you seek wise, impartial counsel from those committed to truth and your godliness or those who will agree with you?
7. Have you ever made a rash (or irreversible) decision when angry? Typically, what's the result?
8. Contrast King Ahasuerus with Almighty King Jesus (Philippians 2:5-9). How did he use his power and greatness? Share some practical ways we can treat others with the same grace and gentleness as Jesus Christ has treated us.