



GROUPDISCUSSION GUIDE

WEEK Sep 18 – 24

MAIN IDEA

Am I looking for God in my story?

CHECK IN (HIGHS & LOWS) 15 min

A great, quick way to catch the highlights of what is happening in the lives of the people in your group is to take turns quickly sharing the “highs & lows” of your week/holidays. High: What was your biggest highlight since we last met? Low: What was the low point during this time?

SETTLE IN (ICE BREAKER) 10 min

1. Share the first job you ever had. Did you enjoy it?

DIG IN (UNDERSTANDING) 15 min

1. The story of Esther starts out with an introduction to Esther, her rise to being queen, and her cousin Mordecai. Read Esther 2:19-23. What happened in this segment of the story? What did this say about the character of Esther and Mordecai? What’s the significance of Esther’s position in being able to expose this plot?
2. Read Esther 3:1-6. How did this sequence of events roll out? How does Mordecai’s allegiance to worshiping only God put him in a dangerous situation? How does this decision affect others, not only him?

3. Mordecai finds out about this plot and begins to spread the word about the threat. Read Esther 4:9-11. What were the decisions Esther had to make and the consequences of these decisions?
4. Read Esther 4:12-16. What was the wise counsel Mordecai gave Esther? How did Mordecai point to God’s hand in this situation?
5. How does Esther respond to this moment? What are some of the ways her faith formed her actions?
6. Read Esther 6:1-9. How do you see God intervening in this story?
7. Read Esther 7:1-3 & 8:1-3, 8-9. The stakes were so high for everyone involved! What kind of courage did Esther show? How did God resolve these high stakes?

GEAR UP (APPLICATION) 20 min

1. If you look back on your life, where have you seen God intervene?
2. If you look at what you’re facing in life right now, what are concerns or worries you need to hand over to God?
3. How can you establish the practice of looking for God in the big and little details of your life?

STEP UP (HOMEWORK) 5 min

4. Read the book of Esther this week. Specifically, look for the moments God was behind the scenes in her story.