

PLOT TWIST: How [God] Saved the Queen!

The Conflict Unfolds
Esther 2:19-5:1

Plot Twists:

1. The voiceless victim is asked to speak.
2. The choiceless person is given agency.
3. The diminished woman is needed to help.

- ⇒ If you have been wronged, God can still make things right.
- ⇒ If you have been silenced, you can still find your voice.
- ⇒ If you have been made to feel unimportant, hear that you matter to God.
- ⇒ If you have been confused, know that God has been and is at work.
- ⇒ If you have been thwarted, God can still give you opportunity.
- ⇒ If you have been delayed, remember some stories unfold slowly.
- ⇒ If you have been rendered powerless, look for a step to take.
- ⇒ If you have been hurt or harmed, find hope in God.

storylines prompt:

Recall and recount a time in your life where you felt marginalized, traumatized or even victimized. How has it shaped you? Is there any good that has come from it? Lessons you have learned? Experiences where you really sensed God's presence or help?



resource guide

First Five / Final Five:

- ⇒ Take the first five minutes of each day to READ God's Word, and the final five minutes of your day to REFLECT on God's Work in your life.

The Big Idea:

- In your own words, how would you summarize the main idea of the message?

From the Message:

- When in life have you felt powerless? How did it affect you? What did you do?
- What have been the pivotal moments of your life—good or bad? How did you see God at work in those situations?

From the Passage:

- Haman was an Agagite. Many scholars believe he was a descendent of Agag, king of the Amalekites, who were the arch enemies of ancient Israel. How does this help us further understand the story?

Think it through / Talk it over:

- How have you observed the abuse of power (or the lust for power) in today's world? What is the fallout? Do you ever see that desire in yourself?
- Xerxes was the king and *de facto* leader, but he was not a good leader. What lessons about leadership (or lack of leadership) can be learned from this story?
- Are there any situations in your life where you might see yourself as powerless? Can you identify any courses of action that you might be able to take?
- Try putting yourself into Esther's shoes. What emotions do you think she felt? How did her experiences shape her? Can you relate to any of her story?

Take a Step:

- ⇒ Truth transforms us only as we take action. What is your plan to apply this truth?