**Esther**

**Week 2**

**Downloads**

**Daily Time With Truth**

As you read these daily scriptures, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What is God saying to me?
2. What do I want to say to God in response?
3. How will I live out this truth?

**Day 1**: Proverbs 16:7 (TPT)

When the Lord is pleased with the decisions you’ve made, he activates grace to turn enemies into friends.

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**Day 2:** Esther 4:16 (VOICE)

“*In preparation for my audience with the king,* do this: gather together all the Jews in Susa, and fast *and pray* for me. *Intercede for me.* For three days and nights, abstain from all food and drink. My maids and I will join you in this time. And after *the three days,* I will go in to the king *and plead my people’s case,* even though it means breaking the law. And if I die, then I die!”

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**Day 3: 1 Peter 4:12-13 (MSG)**

Friends, when life gets really difficult, don’t jump to the conclusion that God isn’t on the job. Instead, be glad that you are in the very thick of what Christ experienced. This is a spiritual refining process, with glory just around the corner.

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**Day 4: 1 Peter 1:6-7 (NLT)**

So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

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**Day 5: 2 Corinthians 4:8-11 (TPT)**

Though we experience every kind of pressure, we’re not crushed. At times we don’t know what to do, but quitting is not an option.  We are persecuted by others, but God has not forsaken us. We may be knocked down, but not out. We continually share in the death of Jesus in our own bodies  so that the resurrection life of Jesus will be revealed through our humanity. We consider living to mean that we are constantly being handed over to death for Jesus’ sake so that the life of Jesus will be revealed through our humanity

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**Discussion Questions**

1. In the sermon, Pastor Bob talked about time. He said,” Time is the most important commodity known to man. You can’t buy time and you can’t make time…you can only spend it or waste it. But when it’s gone…it’s gone! So, what are you doing with your time?”

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2. Read Esther 2:10. Why did Mordecai forbid Esther to reveal her nationality? How does a believer live in a faithless world? How did Esther do this and what were the results? What can we learn from her example?

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3. Read Esther 3:1-6. Why wouldn’t Mordecai bow down? What was the result?

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4. Read Esther 9-11. What is Haman’s intention and why?

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5. Read Esther 4:11 and 16. What is revealed here that is significant for Esther to consider? What does she decide to do?

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6. Pastor Bob said, “If you’re not being challenged, your muscle can’t grow. You can’t grow if you don’t struggle. The more we are challenged in our faith the more our capacity to impact lives for Jesus grows.” How has your faith been challenged recently? Have you gone through any trials? What is God teaching you through this faith workout?

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7. God was at work behind the scenes of Esther’s life. Share how you see God at work in her life. Where do you see God at work behind the scenes of *your* life?

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8. What can you give thanks to God for that He is doing in your life in the midst of the challenges? How can your LifeGroup pray for you to support your faith as you follow God faithfully even when He leads you out of your comfort zone?

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