

## NEXT UP



## Questions for Week One—Esther

### Open

- What is an example of an event or set of circumstances in your life that led to feelings of helplessness or being out of control? Who was the person that walked alongside you during that time?

### Discuss\*

- What are the pivotal circumstances in Esther that God used to change the course of history?
- Respond to this statement. "When it feels like God is allowing something to happen to us, it is easy to lose faith. But when we accept that he is doing something in us, we are candidates for the grace we need to endure."
- Esther was most likely a young person who God used to change the course of a nation. Why is it hard for us to "turn over" leadership and influence to younger people?
- What lessons do you see in this book?

### Reflect

- If God uses pivotal circumstances to build our faith in him, what should our response be next time life takes us by surprise?
- Who has been a "Mordecai" in your life? Have you taken time to thank them?
- Is there someone in your life for whom you could play the part of Mordecai? Pray for opportunities to speak into their lives.
- What "for such a time as this" opportunity are you facing right now that we can pray about?

### Dig Deeper | <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/esther/>

*When we scrutinize the text of Esther for traces of God's activity, we are doing what the author has made us do. The author would have us probe the events we witness in our own lives in the same way. He is teaching a theology of possibility. The willingness to face history with an openness to the possibility of divine providence, even when history seems to weigh against its likelihood, as it did in the dark days after Haman's decree. In this way, the book offers a stance of profound faith.*

~Michael V. Fox

*\*Use these questions to guide your discussion. Don't feel like you have to go through all of them and make sure you take time to talk through any questions and observations from either the sermon or the lesson with the group.*