

ESTHER: FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS "How to Walk Wisely" Esther 5:1-8; 7:1-6 December 8, 2024

Read Esther 5:1-8

- 1) Esther <u>prayed</u> before she proceeded ahead Isaiah 40:28-31; Isaiah 41:10,13
- 2) Esther was prepared & used her position
- Section 11 Section 12 Section 1
- 4) Esther was positive in her communication Proverbs 22:11 (NCV)
- 5) Esther was <u>perceptive</u> (wise) & presents her petition Matthew 10:16 (Message)
- 6) Esther paints a clear picture Esther 7:4 (NIV) Proverbs 12:14a; 10:13a; 13:2a (NLT)
- 7) Esther proceeds & <u>boldly</u> proclaims who the person was Ecclesiastes 8:4-7a (NLT)

## 4 Principles to put into practice

- ✓ When working through an unprecedented event, <u>wait</u> on the Lord before moving ahead Psalm 32:6-8 (NASB)
- ✓ When dealing with an unpredictable person, count on the Lord to guide you through. Proverbs 16:7 (NASB)
- ✓ When working through an unpleasant situation, trust the Lord for unending <u>patience</u>. Colossians 1:11 NLT)
- ✓ When standing against an unprincipled enemy, ask the Lord for <u>unbelievable courage</u>. Joshua 1:6,7,9,18 NASB

## **RESPONSE QUESTIONS:**

- 1) Why is prayer and fasting important in times of crisis, and how does it align with the Christian's dependence on God? What are some specific situations in your life where prayer and fasting might be appropriate for seeking God's will?
- 2) How does Esther's courage in approaching King Xerxes without being summoned demonstrate trust in God's sovereignty over timing and circumstances? How can we learn to trust God's timing in our lives, especially in moments of fear or uncertainty?
- 3) Esther was afraid, but she still chose to act. How does her courage serve as an example for us when we face difficult or intimidating circumstances in our faith? In what areas of your life might you need courage to take a bold stand for God?
- 4) Describe a time in your life where you had to wait and be patient for the Lord's perfect timing. Where in your life do you need to be patient and wait on the Lord's timing in your life?
- 5) Esther carefully planned her approach to the king. How can we balance the need for strategic action with faith in God's control over outcomes? In what ways can you exercise godly wisdom and strategic planning while still trusting in God's provision?