

“Why Am I Where I Am?”

Esther 3-4

January 27, 2013

**Message Notes**



1. A Dark Day in the Universe

Esther 3.1-5

- Haman’s heart is dark, but so are ours.
- Haman desperately needs what we all need: the one he’s hell-bent on destroying.

2. Esther and God in Susa City

Esther 4.1-17

- For such a time as this: Although often hidden and invisible, God’s eyes see all and His hands direct all things and all people to His own glory and our good. (God’s Providence)
- Courage? No. God’s grace? Yes.
- God put you where you are not to chill, but for His pleasure and purposes.

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**Growth Group Questions**



1. Share an insight, question or thought about one of the characters in this wild true story, Esther chapters 3 and 4.
  
2. Mordecai does good, and is forgotten. Haman is trouble from the start, and is honored. (Esther 2.19-3.1) What's the deal?
  - a. Have you felt slighted or disregarded somewhere, sometime? Have you experienced someone else being promoted, appreciated or applauded while you felt overlooked, under-appreciated?
  
  - b. What do we do with feelings of unfairness? How do they make us act toward others? Toward God?
  
  - c. Where do these feelings come from? Consider Jesus' story (Matthew 20.1-16) that seems to discombobulate our "fairness meter."
  
3. Re-read Esther 4.12-14, the high point of this grand story: "For such a time as this." We may not be where we are (our neighborhood, school, family, job, age, etc.) to save a whole race of people, but we are where we are *because God has something for us to do right here.*
  - a. What opportunities are around you? (You may have to look with God's eyes to see what He's already up to.)
  
  - b. Who has God placed around you for *such a time as this*?
  
  - c. God in His grace is with you to empower you to step up for such a time as this, right where He has you today! (I Corinthians 15.10, 2 Corinthians 9.8, 12.7-10)