



MISSION CITY

BIBLE CHURCH

DATE: Sunday, June 11, 2023

TITLE: The Pathways of Providence: Part 2

SERIES: The Book of Esther

PASSAGE: Esther 4:1-17

INTRO:

3 LESSONS ABOUT GOD'S PATHWAY OF PROVIDENCE:

1. God will work _____ you or _____ you (Esther 4:11-14a)

Review from last week

2. God is always _____ you with _____ (Esther 4:14b)

3. God's _____ gives us _____ to act (Esther 4:15-17)

cf., Luke 9:23-25

cf., Ephesians 2:10



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. When have you experienced God working through you? When have you experienced God working despite you?
2. The Jewish people were vulnerable to Haman's scheme. What groups of people are the most vulnerable today? As believers, what should our response be to these people and their hardships? What things make it hard to serve these people?
3. The Jewish people mourned, fasted, and lamented as the news of their coming persecution spread (4:1-3). Define each word: mourning, fasting, and lamenting. What purpose does each action have in times of grief?
4. If God always positions his children with purpose, what purpose(s) might He have for the position you are in right now?
5. Find one person in Scripture who didn't know God's plans in the midst of difficult circumstances, but he/she acted with courage anyway. How does this person's story challenge you?
6. From verses 4-17 we read the dialogue between Esther and Mordecai. Are you teachable enough that the "Mordecai's" in your life can challenge you to view your present trial(s) through the lens of Scripture and act with courage?
7. How might you begin softening your edges to invite this kind of interaction with your brothers and sisters in Christ?

APPLICATION

8. Read Ephesians 2:10. What good works has God prepared for you? If you don't know, what steps can you take to find the answer?
9. Rewrite Luke 9:23-25 in your own words. What is Jesus saying here? How will you live differently because of these words? If you are unwilling to live differently, what might that reveal about you?