



MISSION CITY

BIBLE CHURCH

DATE: Sunday, June 25, 2023

TITLE: When It's Out of My Control

SERIES: The Book of Esther

PASSAGE: Esther 6:1-13

INTRO:

BIG IDEA: God is always accomplishing his purposes – often slowly and imperceptibly – but nonetheless certainly

1. The King's Insomnia (v1-3)
2. The King's Indecision (v4-9)
3. The King's Instruction and Haman's Indignity (v10-13)

2 LESSONS ABOUT THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD:

1. When the circumstances are out of my control, I must remember that God is always at work even when I can't see it
2. When the circumstances are out of my control, I must remember that God is always in the small things as well as the big things

cf. Ephesians 1:11 (Romans 8:28; Proverbs 16:9)



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. In Esther 6:1-3, the king could not sleep. What did the king do to pass the time and why is it significant?
2. When you are restless or can't sleep, what are your default moves to pass the time? What can you learn from the king and apply to yourself?
3. The king needed help to figure out how to honour Mordecai (v4-9). Into what sort of decisions in your life might it be wise to invite help? Does Scripture provide any insight regarding seeking advice from others? See Proverbs 11:14, 12:15, 13:20, 15:31-33, 19:20.
4. In Esther 6:6-9, Haman made an assumption. What did he assume? What sin(s) might have driven his assumption?
5. Think of a time you made an incorrect assumption or a time you had an expectation that wasn't met. Why did you expect a particular outcome? What actually happened? How did you respond? As you reflect on that event, can you see evidence of sin on your part? What can you learn from that experience?
6. Based on what we've learned already in Esther, why do you suppose it was it difficult for Haman to follow the king's instructions in verses 10-13?
7. Read Proverbs 16:18. Have you experienced the truth of this proverb? Now read Philippians 2:3-8, James 4:6-10, 1 Peter 5:6. What do you learn from these verses?
8. Esther constantly reminds us that God is at work even when we can't see it and that He is in the small and the big things. Looking back on your life, how do you see these truths more clearly? Looking forward, how do you need to believe them for the future?