

Esther Part 6: God's Faithfulness

Discussion Theme: God's Faithfulness

Purpose of Discussion...

To recognize God's faithfulness in our lives and to discuss how God's faithfulness can lead us to have complete trust in him.

1. Theme Question for discussion...

- ☆ Give an example of a time or situation in which God was faithful. How did knowing God was being faithful to you affect you?

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2. Read Esther 8 (whole chapter)

3. Discussing the text

- ☆ List all the ways that Mordecai and Esther are rewarded by God through the actions of the king.
- ☆ What did the king's new orders allow the Jewish people to do?
- ☆ Why didn't the king just cancel his previous order to annihilate the Jews?
- ☆ What do vv. 3-6 reveal about Esther's character?
- ☆ Esther felt deep concern and compassion for her people. For what person or group of people would you like to have that same kind of concern? Explain why (or why not).
- ☆ How would you go about developing this compassion?
- ☆ Compassion for other people (especially those whom we do not know) is a very rare trait in people. Why do you think this is?
- ☆ God's compassion for the Jewish people was expressed in his faithfulness to them on many occasions throughout history. Explain how God was faithful to Esther, Mordecai, and the Jewish nation.

4. Redirection

When I was just getting my life back on course after a time of running away from God, I had a very important and powerful experience. I had been struggling with giving up my life to God for quite some time and I finally decided to give in and give my life and my future over to God. Immediately I felt this incredible sense that no matter what God was going to do with my life I knew that

he would do what was best for me and that he would be faithful to me forever. I realized at that moment there was no place or situation that I could ever be in which God would not be there with me. As I let go of my life, God took it and gave me an incredible peace that he would be faithful. It was God's faithfulness that enabled me to trust him with my most precious possession - my life!

5. Digging Deeper

Leader's key thought: *Keep referring back to God's faithfulness. He will always work things out for the good for those who love him. (Rom 8:28)*

- ☆ Why is it important to believe in God's faithfulness?
- ☆ How does knowing that God is faithful affect your life?
- ☆ Giving your complete life to God can be a scary thing because we often are not sure what he will do with it. What things in your life are hindering you from giving every part of your life to God (your friends, your struggles, your family situation, your relationship with your parents, your future)?
- ☆ What difference does it make in your life to know that you can completely trust God with every part of your life?
- ☆ How can you overcome some of the fears that may be holding you back from trusting God completely with your life?