

## FUSION Q's... Esther Part 5: Pride & Humiliation

*Discussion Theme: Be prepared*

*Purpose of Discussion: To recognize our own pride and to guard our hearts from prideful thinking (thinking that I am better than others)*

### 1. Theme Question for Discussion

- ☆ What is the difference between arrogance and being proud of someone or something?

### 2. Read Esther 5:9-14

### 3. Discussing the text (5 min max! – easy answers)

**\*\*\*Leader's Heads up: Focus on how irrational it was for Haman to get obsessed with Mordecai and what would cause this to happen.**

- ☆ What was Haman so proud of?
- ☆ What made Haman so angry? Why would this make him angry?
- ☆ How did Haman's family and friends help feed his arrogance?
- ☆ Haman was at the height of his career. Why was he so consumed with Mordecai?

### 4. Redirection... "My Name is Pride" by Beth Moore

My name is Pride. I am a cheater.

I cheat you of your God-given destiny... because you demand your own way.

I cheat you of contentment... because you "deserve better than this."

I cheat you of knowledge... because you already know it all.

I cheat you of healing... because you are too full of you to forgive.

I cheat you of holiness... because you refuse to admit when you are wrong.

I cheat you of vision... because you'd rather look in the mirror than out a window.

I cheat you of genuine friendship... because nobody's going to know the real you.

I cheat you of love... because real romance demands sacrifice.

I cheat you of greatness in heaven... because you refuse to wash another's feet on earth.

I cheat you of God's glory... because I convinced you to seek your own.

My name is Pride. I am a cheater.

You like me because you think I'm always looking out for you.

Untrue.

I'm looking to make a fool of you.

God has so much for you, I admit, but don't worry...

If you stick with me you'll never know.

### 5. Digging Deeper

**\*\*\*Leader's key thought: Try and help the students expose some of the prideful ways of thinking they might have and don't know they have. Be prepared to share first how pride has been a subtle sin in your own life!**

- ☆ Haman's pride was obvious. How can pride be a subtle (go unnoticed) sin?
- ☆ Is it possible to stay humble when one has much success in life? How?
- ☆ When another person boasts about their accomplishments, how do you react?
- ☆ Think about your recent attitudes and actions. What evidence of pride do you see?
- ☆ How can you work on eliminating pride from your heart?