

QUESTIONS

Day 1: Review

1. What most encouraged you from either last week's lesson, scripture, discussion, or commentary?

2. How were you challenged by the lecture?

Day 2: Read Esther 3:1-6, Psalm 95:6, Romans 14:11, Ephesians 3:14, Philippians 2:9-11

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3. **Thought Question:** Why do you think Mordecai would not kneel or pay honor to Haman?

4. What do you learn about kneeling or bowing in the following cross references?
Psalm 95:6 –

Romans 14:11 –

Ephesians 3:14 –

Philippians 2:9-11 –

5. **Personal Question:** As you consider to whom you should bow and to whom you should not, is there anybody or anything to whom/which you currently give more honor/reverence than God? If so, explain your answer.

6. What do you discover from verse 6 that exposes Haman's evil heart?

Day 3: Read Esther 3:7-9, Proverbs 22:2, Acts 10:28, Romans 10:12-13, James 2:4 [\[Open NIV\]](#)
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7. How did Haman describe the Jews to King Xerxes in verses 7 and 8?

8. **Thought Question:** Why do some people get angry with other people who have different customs than their own?

9. **Personal Question:** How should you respond to people with different backgrounds and customs? Give the reasons for your answer.

10. What do you learn about prejudice/racism from the following cross references?

Proverbs 22:2 –

Acts 10:28 –

Romans 10:12-13 –

James 2:4 –

Day 4: Read Esther 3:10-15, Psalm 25:12, Proverbs 3:5-6, 1 Corinthians 10:31, Philippians 4:6-7, James 1:5 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

In verses 10-15 Haman was convincing King Xerxes to take drastic action against an entire segment of the Babylonian population, namely the Jews. This was a huge decision for the King to make.

11. **Thought Question:** List some things conspicuously missing in this account of King Xerxes making one of the biggest decisions of his life. What are some things the King could have done to make a better decision than he did?

12. Using the following cross references, what Biblical principles do you discover that help in making decisions?

Psalm 25:12 –

Proverbs 3:5-6 –

1 Corinthians 10:31 –

Philippians 4:6-7 –

James 1:5 –

13. **Personal Question:** Using the Biblical principles for making sound decisions found in the previous cross references, which verse do you most need to follow now in your life and why?

Day 5: Read Esther 4:1-9, Isaiah 1:17, Zechariah 7:10, Proverbs 24:11, Proverbs 31:8-9

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14. List some things Mordecai did upon hearing the news of the King's edict to eliminate the Jews?
15. Though much of Mordecai's actions mentioned in verses 1-9 relate to Old Testament Jewish customs, what was at the heart of his grief and misery? In other words, what troubled Mordecai's heart driving him to such actions?
16. **Personal Question:** Though you may not have expressed your grief similarly to Mordecai, describe a time in your life when mistreatment or abuse (or worse) being perpetrated on others evoked severe grief in you.

17. When Mordecai found out about the imminent oppression and annihilation of the Jews, it caused him to take drastic measures. Using the following Bible verses, how should you respond when you become aware of oppression?

Isaiah 1:17 –

Zechariah 7:10 –

Proverbs 24:11 –

Proverbs 31:8-9 –

18. **Personal Question:** How might you stand up for someone being oppressed today? Be specific.

Day 6: Read Esther 4:10-17, 2 Timothy 1:7 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

19. How did Esther's response to Mordecai's question expose her fears in verses 10 and 11? What did she fear?
20. In Mordecai's response back to Esther in verses 12-14, what was his rationale for insisting Esther leverage her status with the King to save the Jews?
21. Read 2 Timothy 1:7. How might this New Testament verse have helped Esther in the predicament in which she found herself in verses 10-17?
22. **Thought Question:** Explain what you believe Mordecai meant in verse 14 when he said, "And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

23. **Personal Question:** What Biblical principle is being espoused in verse 14 and how can you apply it to your life?

24. How did Esther reply to Mordecai in verse 16 and what does this show you about her character?