

Study Guide

Pray: Pray that God will show you something new in this reading of His Word and that you will be fully present as you consider these questions.

Read: Begin by reading Esther 6 straight through, as you would any book. You can read on, but for this study week we will concentrate on this Chapter.

Questions:

1. In **V1**, what was the King's problem during the night between the two banquets, and how did he address it?
2. In **V2-3**, what was uncovered, and what question did this prompt from the King?
3. What ironically happened as the King was having this conversation with the servant in **V4-5**?
4. The providential timing of God is unmistakable in this passage. Review the first six chapters of Esther and find more examples of God's interventions and providences.
5. List the things Haman suggested should be done to honor this man in **V7-9**.

6. What did the King command Haman to do in **V10-11**?

7. Describe how this outcome is different from what Haman intended when he walked into the palace that day.

8. Just as God was beginning to change the course of events through the King having a sleepless night, He often works in our lives through events that seem unexpected and insignificant. Consider how God has directed and guided your life through a chain of events, each by itself seemingly unimportant at the time. Share this encouraging story with your group.

9. In **V12**, what did Mordecai do after being honored?

10. After the humiliating ride through the city with Mordecai, how did Haman's wife and friends interpret the events and respond to him in **V12-14**?

11. How has Haman's ungodly character contributed to his downfall?

12. Write out the contrasting traits displayed so far in the 4 main characters in Esther:

<u>POSITIVE (Esther & Mordecai)</u>	<u>NEGATIVE (Xerxes & Haman)</u>
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For Possible Reflection: Focus verse: / prayer / quote