

Meant to Be series
Fall 2018
Week 5 Outline
Esther Ch 7

Ordinarily Called

I. The Story (Esther 6:11- 7:10)

- A. Haman's humiliation
- B. Esther's revelation
- C. The King's fury
- D. Haman's downfall

II. Missing the Point

We disqualify ourselves from God's work because:

- A. We think God only calls extraordinary people and I'm not extraordinary
- B. We think God only works in extraordinary places, and Rockbridge county isn't extraordinary
- C. We think God only moves through people with extraordinary gifts, and I'm not gifted
- D. We think God only acts in extraordinary times, and I'm usually late.

III. Our Ordinary Calling in God's Extraordinary Story

(from living in the conviction of Haman, to experiencing life committed like Mordecai, and compelled like Esther)

A. Convicted like Haman

- 1. We were all once Haman
 - full of fits of jealousy and rage
 - enemies deserving justice for our actions
 - 2. BUT NOW in CHRIST...
 - we are reconciled, saved, and rejoicing in God
- Romans 5:1-11

YOU ARE CALLED...

AND YOUR CALLING BEGINS WITH THE GOSPEL

B. Committed like Mordecai

- 1. Who knew his life was **by God** (knowing that all he was, came from the Father)
- 2. Who gave his life **to God** (giving all he had with trust for the Father)
- 3. Who believed his life was **for God** (believing all he did was in worship of the Father)

Our calling comes from God, no one else.

Our calling is to *SOMEONE* (God), not *SOMETHING*
and it is for GOD'S GLORY, not our own.

YOU ARE CALLED...

AND YOUR CALLING IS BY GOD, TO GOD, AND FOR GOD

C. Compelled like Esther

-who was willing to sacrifice...

1. Everything she was for her people
-*"let my life be granted me for my wish, and my people for my request"*
2. Everything she did, right where she was
-*"for such a time as this"*
3. Everything she had, with her whole life
-*"if I perish, I perish"*

"God calls us to himself so decisively that everything we are, everything we do, and everything we have can be invested with profound passion, devotion, and direction. We are all "ordinarily called"- we all (every one of us) has this very same calling. When we live it out ...it makes for an extraordinary life!"

YOU ARE CALLED...
AND YOUR CALLING IS TO EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE, WITH EVERYTHING

IV. Convinced. Compelled. Committed. (2 Corinthians 5:14-21)

Preparing as if an extraordinary God is at work through your ordinary life.

While Haman was preparing for destruction Esther was preparing for the divine
-both attitudes shape the ordinary moments of our lives... and are reflected in our decisions not only on a Sunday morning but on a Tuesday afternoon.

1. Be Convinced.

Am I living convinced that Christ lived on earth, died in my place, and was raised again?

2. Be Compelled.

Is my life compelled by Christ's great love, no longer living for myself but rather for him who died and was raised again?

3. Be Committed.

Where have I been extraordinarily called into ordinary life, with a commitment to Jesus' ministry of reconciliation?

YOU ARE CALLING IS TO THE ORDINARY, BY THE ONE WHO IS EXTRAORDINARY
IT BEGINS WITH THE GOSPEL
IT IS BY GOD, TO GOD, AND FOR GOD
AND IT IS TO EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE, IN EVERYTHING.