

## Meant to Be series

Esther week 2 outline

Esther 3:1-4:14

9.23.18

## UNIQUELY POSITIONED

### I. The Inciting Incident

#### A. Total Annihilation (Esther 3:1-15)

1. Haman the Agagite (vs 1)
2. The Integrity of Mordecai Displayed (vs 1)
3. The Fury of Haman (vs 6)
4. Decreed by the King (vs 9)
5. Total Destruction Planned (vs 13)
5. A City Thrown into Confusion (vs 15)

*"And the king and Haman sat down to drink, but the city of Susa was thrown into confusion."*

#### B. For Such a Time As This (Esther 4:1-14)

1. Mordecai in Sackcloth and Ashes (vs 1)
2. Esther in Deep Distress (vs 4)
3. The Faith of Mordecai (vs 14a)
4. The Unique Position of Esther (vs 14b)

*"13 Then Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not think to yourself that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. 14 For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"*

### II. Relief and Deliverance from Another (Lk 19:1-10)

#### A. Seeking Jesus

1. "a chief tax collector and was rich" (vs 2)
  - A man who has it all... money and power
2. "seeking to see Jesus" (vs 3)
  - A man hoping there is something more to life

#### B. Finding Zacchaeus

1. "he looked up" (vs 5a)
  - Jesus **Looks up**, sees Zacchaeus right where he is
2. "and said to him"
  - Jesus calls Zacchaeus by name
3. "I **MUST** stay at your house" (vs 5b)
  - Jesus **Leans Forward** into a real relationship with Zacchaeus

### C. Salvation Come

1. *"and received him joyfully"* (vs 6)
  - Zacchaeus **Lets In** the only one who can bring lasting joy to his life
2. *"half of my goods... restore it four fold"* (vs 8)
  - Zacchaeus begins to **Live Right**- showing integrity extending from a changed heart
4. *"salvation has come to this house"* (vs 9)
  - the testimony of Zacchaeus' life transformation through encountering Jesus witnessed by his *"oikos"*
5. *"came to seek and to save"* (vs 10)
  - the mission of Jesus

### III. For Such a Time as This

YOU ARE UNIQUELY POSITIONED  
"FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS"  
PLANTED ON PURPOSE  
AS A PERSON OF INFLUENCE

#### A. Defining Our *"oikos"* (not the yogurt)

1. The Household-
  - In our world: simply the nuclear family
  - In their world: It was broader/ more encompassing... a circle of influence
2. Our Circle of Influence
  - Our family, neighbors, coworkers, friends, those we come in contact with on a frequent basis

#### B. Cultivating Our Circle of Influence

1. LOOK UP
  - Begin to see people around you through the lens of Christ's compassion, and the focus of Christ's commission (Mt 28:19)  
*"go therefore and make disciples"*
2. LEAN FORWARD
  - Chose to intentionally take time to develop relationships on all levels
3. LET IN
  - Receive Christ and the life transformation that he offers (2 Cor 5:17)
  - Let others in so they can hear your story

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.  
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." (2 Cor 5:17)*

4. LIVE RIGHT

-Act with integrity

"INTEGRITY IS THE CHOICE BETWEEN WHAT IS CONVENIENT  
AND WHAT IS RIGHT" Tony Dungey

#### **IV. Exercising our Unique Position**

1. What's one way I can "look up" from my routine this week and invest in a relationship?
2. What happens when I don't live in BOTH the compassion AND the commission of Jesus?
3. What areas of my life am I unwilling to let Christ in, OR hesitant to let others in? Why?
4. Where might my actions not be lining up with what I claim to represent?