

"... Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

"THE KING'S CHOICE"
Esther 1:1 – 5:14

1. What did you learn from last week's lesson?

DAY 1 - READ Esther 1:1-22

2. Who was the ruler and over what area did he rule?
3. In the third year of his reign, he gave a _____ for all his nobles and officials that lasted six months. What was displayed during this time?
4. a. For whom was the next banquet given?
b. What instructions did the king give concerning the drinking of wine?
5. a. Queen Vashti was giving a banquet for the women when she received what command from the king?
b. Consider the response of the queen and king to each other. How do you think each one was wrong or right in this situation?
c. In today's society, what are important elements of a good marriage?
6. a. Memucan was concerned the queen's disobedience would lead to what?
b. What advice did he offer?
7. The king sent dispatches to all his people. What was the message to be delivered?

DAY 2 – READ Esther 2:1-23

8. What plan did the king's advisors propose?
9. a. What was Mordecai's background?
b. What was Hadassah's (Esther's) relationship to him?
c. How was Esther described?
10. a. What did Hegai do for Esther?
b. Why do you think he favored her?

DAY 2 (Continued) – READ Esther 2:1-23

11. What did Esther keep secret?
12. a. How was a young woman prepared physically to go before the king?
b. How do you prepare spiritually to go before the King of Kings?
13. One chance to make an impression! What did Esther do?
14. What special things were done in honor of Esther's coronation?
15. a. What plot was discovered by Mordecai?
b. What happened to the officials?

DAY 3 – READ Esther 3:1-15

16. What honor was given Haman and how were they to show their respect?
17. a. When Mordecai refused, what was Haman's plan?
b. How was the date decided upon for this revenge?
18. a. What was Haman's request of the king?
b. What authority did the king give Haman?
19. No record exists as to whether Haman ever told the king which people he chose to annihilate.
 - a. Why do you think the king never asked?
 - b. Why do you think Haman didn't tell him?

DAY 4 – READ Esther 4:1-17

20. How did the Jews react to the edict?
21. a. What did Mordecai want Esther to do?
b. Why was that not as easy as it sounded?
22. a. What warning did Mordecai have for Esther?
b. Also, what else should she take into consideration?
c. Have you ever thought about why you are on earth at this particular time? Share a time when God confirmed your position in life and how He used you.
23. What did Esther plan to do and how did she ask her people to help?

DAY 5 – READ Esther 5:1-14

24. a. How did the king react when he saw Esther?
 - b. How do you think she looked after three days and nights of fasting?
25. What was Esther's request?
26. a. When the king asked Esther her petition, what was her response?
 - b. What was Haman's mood as he left the palace that day?
 - c. What ruined that mood?
27. a. Of what did Haman boast to his wife and friends?
 - b. What advice did this group give concerning Mordecai?
28. In your opinion, do you think Haman was a man whose character was "strong" or "weak"? Why?

BEGINNING AGAIN 30-4

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LECTURE NOTES:

PRAYER REQUESTS: