

QUESTIONS

Day 1: Review

1. What encouraged you most from the introductory lecture to the Book of Esther?

Day 2: Read Esther 1:1-8, Ephesians 5:18, Proverbs 20:1, I Peter 5:8 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

2. Develop a bullet point profile of King Xerxes using only verses 1-8.

3. How might the activities described in verses 7 and 8 have contributed to the problems between King Xerxes and his wife?

4. How could the principles expressed in the following cross references have made a difference in the outcome of the King's banquet?
Ephesians 5:18 –

Proverbs 20:1 –

I Peter 5:8 –

5. **Personal Question:** How might you apply the principles being taught in the cross references from the previous question?

Day 3: Read Esther 1:9-22, Ephesians 5:25-28, 1 Timothy 5:1-2, Psalm 1:1-2, James 1:5 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

6. What was the mental state of King Xerxes when he sent for Queen Vashti and why do you think she responded as she did?

7. How did the law of the land expressed in verses 15-18 allow the King to treat his wife, Queen Vashti?

8. How does Ephesians 5:25-28 instruct husbands to treat their wives?

9. How does 1 Timothy 5:1-2 instruct men to treat women?

10. **Personal Question:** What was the counsel of the nobles in verses 19-20 and what was the King's response? Should the King have followed the advice of his counselors? Explain your answer.

11. What do you learn about wise counsel from the following cross references?
Psalm 1:1-2 –

James 1:5 –

Day 4: Read Esther 2:1-18, Psalm 5:12, Psalm 84:11, Proverbs 3:3-4, Proverbs 3:33-34
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12. In verses 1-4, what did the King's attendants propose and why?

13. From verses 5-7, who were Mordecai and Esther and what was their relationship to each other?

14. According to verse 8, what was the situation in which Esther found herself?
15. In verses 8-18, write down every time Esther won the favor of someone. Give the verse and who it was that was favorably disposed toward her.
- In verse _____, Esther won the favor of _____.
- In verse _____, Esther won the favor of _____.
- In verse _____, Esther won the favor of _____.
16. Write down something you learn about God’s favor in the following cross references:
(Note: Some translations use grace rather than favor.)
- Psalm 5:12 –
- Psalm 84:11 –
- Proverbs 3:3-4 –
- Proverbs 3:33-34 –
17. **Personal Question:** Why is God’s favor (or grace) important to you?
18. **Personal Question:** Describe some ways you have received God’s favor.

Day 5: Read Esther 2:19-23 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

19. Why do you think Mordecai instructed Esther to keep her Jewish heritage a secret?

20. How does verse 20 address Esther's character? Explain your answer.
21. Using verses 22-23, summarize what Mordecai heard while sitting at the City Gate, what he did, and what was the result?
22. **Thought Question:** To what/who do you attribute Mordecai appearing "in the right place at the right time?" Explain your answer.
23. **Personal Question:** Have you/are you ever seemingly at the "right place at the right time" and to what/whom do you attribute it?

Day 6: Read Esther 2, Psalm 4:8, Matthew 5:43-45, Luke 1:52, Galatians 1:15-16 [\[Open NIV\]](#)
[\[Open NKJV\]](#)

24. Write down something you learn about the providence (control) of God from the following cross references.
- Psalm 4:8 –
- Matthew 5:43-45 –
- Luke 1:52 –
- Galatians 1:15-16 –
25. **Personal Question:** What is your main take away from Esther 1 and 2?