

Dig Deeper @Home – "Coincidence?" Complement to lesson on 05/10/2020 – "Abundantly Unsatisfied"

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

- 1. If you could plan a celebration/party and all expenses were covered, what would it look like?
- 2. Share a memorable celebration you were a part of.

MEMORIZE – Esther 4: 15-16

Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai, "Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my young women will also fast as you do. Then I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish."

READ Esther 1

Questions to ponder/discuss:

- 1. What sticks out to you in this passage?
- 2. What did you like? What didn't you like?
- 3. What general observations can you make? Anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?
- 4. Esther and Mordecai are Jews living in Persia. Why are the Jews in Persia? How did they get there? Why are they still there? Take time to research this. What do you discover?
- 5. Read Psalm 1. Compare and contrast this with the way Xerxes seeks guidance in chapter 1. Now analyze your own life. Do you follow Psalm 1 or more of a Xerxes way (perhaps a little of both)?
- 6. What is this passage revealing about God? About us as humans?
- 7. In light of these revealed truths, what changes might you need to make, and how do you feel you are being called to put this into action?

Experiential activity – True Contentment

King Xerxes has everything the world offers, yet he is painfully unable to enjoy what he has and is seemingly abundantly unsatisfied. In other words, he is not content. What about you? How content are you? In what areas are you also discontent. What would make you more content? Answer these questions then read Philippians 4: 4-13. Go back to your original answers. Does anything need to change in light of the truths revealed in these verses? What is the secret to true contentment according to Paul? What would this look like in your life?

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!) King of my Heart - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-jkMnq2Hfzo</u> O Praise the Name - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LqBpifDpNKc</u> I will sing of my Redeemer– Mennonite Hymnal 554 <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HU5hhE9cN6A</u>

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

1. Sending prayer based on the lesson:

As you go, go with glad hearts and generous minds. Go with Christ's teaching within your spirit so that you may minister to those without love and without hope. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.