



lyona bible church

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS – MAY 16, 2010

Announcements – Please read these to your group!

Please check your bulletin and the website (www.lyona.org) each week for additional information.

- **THEOS:** A new semester will be starting Sunday, June 13 beginning at 9am. Courses TBA.
- **Life Groups:** Our Life Groups are open to new couples and singles. So invite away!

Risking It All: Esther 1-2

Recap:

In chapters one and two of the amazing book of Esther, we find that Esther's life is one that God is always at work in our lives. Esther examples the active presence of God in one's life in which is an attractive quality that people responded to. Our spiritual influence in the world comes from whom we are. Simply, we have to be someone before we say something.

Questions:

1. What was the most interesting idea or principle about this Sunday's message?
2. Have someone read Esther 1:1-9. What part of the context sticks out at you? Is there really a point to party for 180 days?
3. Have someone read Esther 1:10-22. What are the implications of Vashti's refusal to show her beauty? Is this the beginning of something much bigger than Vashti?
4. Have someone read Esther 2:1-11. What circumstances can be seen as providence? What does the word "favor" imply about God (even though His name is not mentioned in the book)?
5. Have someone read Esther 2:12-18. Why Esther? Was she someone before she said something?
6. How is God actively present in your life? How is this an attractive quality? Is humility needed on our part?
7. Do you, after hearing the sermon this Sunday, need to confess anything or repent of anything? What in your life needs to change?

Prayer Requests

A place to write out your groups' prayer requests

SERMON NOTES

Each header with sub-points is a slide used in Sunday morning's PowerPoint presentation.

Text: Esther 1-2

Speaker: Michael Fraser

Message: Risking It All: Chapters 1-2

Risking It All: The Story of Hadassah (Esther)

Esther chapter 1:1-2:18

- 1:3-4 > a six month feast
- 1:5-8 > a seven day feast
- 1:9 > Queen Vashti's feast
- **The story line introduced: 1:10-22**
 - The king was amused!
 - The queen refused!
 - The king blew a fuse!
 - The queen was intoxicating!
 - The princes were intoxicated!
 - The situation just got complicated!
 - This was the drunk leading the drunk!
- **2:1 "After these things..."**
 - There was a three year gap between chapter 1 and 2
 - This was because Xerxes was at war in Greece.
- **The story line developed: 2:1-18**
 - The king remembered!
 - Mordecai presented!
 - Esther sequestered!
 - *'favor' is a covenant word expressing God's faithfulness and love. It shows God is at work.*
 - Luke 2:52 "And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and with people."
 - Acts 2:47 "praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to them day by day those that were saved."

Esther reminds us that...

- The active presence of the God in a life is an attractive quality that people respond to.
- You have to be something before you say something!
- Your spiritual influence in the world comes from whom you are.
- Acts 4:13 "When they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and discovered that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized these men had been with Jesus."

Conclusion:

- God gives favor so that His plan can be fulfilled, because God is at work!