

Own It

As Christ-followers, we don't just show the way, we lead the way. But what does it look like for all of us to lead? How do we lead from where God has us right now? Let's look at some real-life examples from the Bible and learn how it's done.



INTRODUCTION

Today Pastor Jared talked to us about the story of Esther and how she "owned it" and listened to what God was calling her to do, His plans, and His timing. He gave us examples of how we should own things in our own lives and also what things hinder us from doing so.

STARTER QUESTION

Can you think of a modern day Esther in your life, that you know or maybe have read about? What sacrifices did they make and how have they made an impact? Can you see God's plan in their life?

INTO THE WORD

We learned today that fear will keep us from God and His plan for our lives. Read Matthew 6:31-34. Jesus is telling us exactly what we need to do, not to fear/worry, to seek God first, and that God knows what we need before we know we need it. Is there an area of your life in which you need to apply this scripture, Jesus' words, and give up control or fear in a situation that you are facing?

Read Ephesians 2:10. Like Esther, God has you where you are for a divine purpose and reason. Name some ways we can begin with God by putting Him first. What roles can you own by planning carefully and clearly?

Esther came to grips with her situation and accepted the responsibility to ask the King to prevent Haman from carrying out the slaughter of all Israelites in the Kingdom. Can you think of other Bible character(s) who accepted responsibility for a task, no matter what the cost? If so discuss.

APPLICATION

Pastor Jared also told us of a modern day Esther named Katie who is owning God's plan for her life and has done amazing things because of it. Can you think of any times where you owned it and were living out God's plan for you? How did this make an impact for His Kingdom and how do you think things would have turned out had you not listened to Him?

There are no coincidences; instead there is God's loving providence in our lives. List some ways we can view something as God's plan for our life, rather than simply a random event. How can we give the Lord the credit and submit to His will, even when "life happens" and He allows us to experience challenges?

Pastor Jared told us of a situation in which his son was not truthful about eating doughnuts that he knew were needed for school. The boy eventually "Owned It" and acknowledged his lie. Do you have a personal circumstance where you made a mistake, but in the end, did the right thing? Did you have a positive feeling for "owning it" and correcting it? Tell us about it.

PRAYER

Dear Lord, please help me to seek you first in every situation in my life, even when it's hard to do. I pray that you will also help me to enlist fellow believers as my "support team" to spur me on to a closer walk with You and to share the Gospel with others. Help me to own all aspects of my life and listen to what you are telling me to do. Help me to always remember that you are right by my side and you will always prevail, no matter what. Amen.