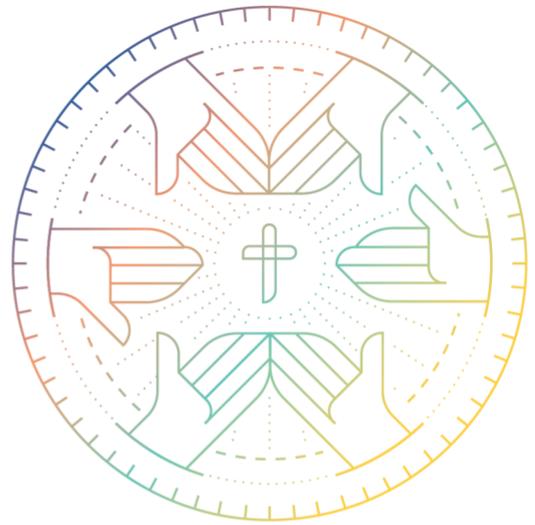


# Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER

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## MEETING AGENDA

### ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

Have you heard an inspirational story lately? When was the last time someone inspired you? If so, share that story in brief with your group!

OR

Has God ever done the impossible in your life? Has he done something in your life that only He could do? Many of us have experienced God's power overwhelming our circumstances. Give God glory by briefly sharing what God has done in your life.

### INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

What stood out to you from this week's sermon?

Is Esther's story familiar to you? Is there something new you learned about Esther or the other characters in the story that you didn't previously know?

### INTO THE WORD (25 MINUTES)

**Read Esther 3:1-6.** What stands out to you regarding Mordecai's offense toward Haman and Haman's response? What might be motivating Mordecai to refuse honor to Haman? What might be motivating Haman to respond as he does?

**Read Esther 4:12-16.** What do you learn about Mordecai from his advice and counsel to Esther in v.12-14? What do we learn about Esther from her response to Mordecai in v.15-16?

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**Read Esther 8:1-7, 15-17.** After Haman’s evil plot is revealed and Haman is put to death in Ch. 7, many blessings and benefits flow from the King to Esther, Mordecai and the Jews. God completely changed the fortunes of His people in Persia. What are those blessings and benefits? How many can you list?

## APPLICATION (25 MINUTES)

How would you describe this season that you are in? Can you imagine what it might mean for you to be in this season for “such a time as this”? What might that look like?

What decision might God be leading you toward that simply awaits your willingness to accept? Is there a way your small group can be praying for you about that decision? Perhaps fasting one day this week for you?

David said that we might be overwhelmed with an “if (*your worst fear*), then (*consequences of your worst fear*)” possibility in our life. Is that true for you? Is there a fear in your life that is weighing you down?

- No matter the weight or the gravity of our fears, God outweighs those fears. God is bigger, weightier and more powerful than all our fears.

What’s one fear you can give to God today? One fear that you can trust to God so that fear does not drive your thoughts, your feelings or your behaviors?

## PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

*Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for showing us through Esther’s story that you are always at work in history and in circumstances. We are never alone. You can prepare and empower us for such a time as this. You can guide us in the big decisions that might have a dramatic impact in our lives or the lives of those around us. You can overcome our fears with the assurance that you are greater than anything that could be against us. Like Esther, we trust you with our lives. Amen.*