

Sermon Discussion Questions | 9.3.17

Eucatastrophe

Esther 8

1. At the beginning of the message, Pastor Tom highlighted the problem Esther, Mordecai and Israel were facing. Re-read Esther 8:1-2 and discuss what their problem involved.
2. As we examine our own lives, maybe there is turmoil and trouble there as well. If you feel up to it, why not share something you are wrestling with at this time. How have you been managing it? How has it been affecting you?
3. How we deal with our problems and trials makes a huge difference. How did Mordecai and Esther deal with their problem? What did they not do?
4. Esther makes a request, she doesn't hide or run from problem, she faces it. This led to a response and a reversal. Read Esther 8:8-13 and discuss what this meant for the Jews, for Esther and Mordecai.
5. God provided a reward for Esther's faithfulness and the audacity to call out to the Lord in the midst of the struggle. He provided a **eucatastrophe**! As believers, this serves not just as a good testimony but also foreshadowing. What do events like this point to? What is the hope we derive from what God did here?
6. In Jesus we have hope, we have a promise of deliverance and restoration. Whatever our circumstances we are assured that the Father hears us and will intervene on our behalf, one way or another. The question is, what are you praying for? What is your request? Are you being bold and audacious? Read the scriptures Pastor Tom shared this morning and discuss how you've been engaging in your prayers through out your struggle.
7. The truth of the hope we have in Jesus, the promise of a eucatastrophe, should cause us all to rejoice, to find joy. As you close today, remind each other of things you have to be thankful for. Spend time sharing ways in which God has sustained you, provided for you, comforted you or strengthened you. Pray for each other and encourage one another.