

## Sermon Discussion Questions | August 13, 2017

*Good Things Happen When We obey*  
Esther 2-3

1. What do you think of the statement “good things happen when you obey, bad things happen when you disobey”? Can you think of a reason someone might not agree, or have difficulty agreeing with this statement?
2. Pastor Jim explained the context of the book of Esther. Israel is in captivity due to their repeated disobedience. This is actually a common theme throughout scripture. What are some other examples of people’s circumstances being directly affected by their disobedience of God? How have you seen this in your own life?
3. The history of Mordecai and Haman dated back to their ancestors, King Saul and Agag. In Esther we see Mordecai having an opportunity to make a different choice than Saul did. What was at risk for him? What risks have you or someone you know faced when needing to choose obedience or disobedience?
4. Sometimes doing the right thing, obeying God, does not look like the right choice. Sometimes the problems or troubles seem to increase. What happened when Mordecai obeyed God? Have you ever endured harsh times for obeying God and doing the right thing? How so?
5. Mordecai’s obedience did bring about God’s blessing, in the long run. It set the whole plan in motion for God to save the Israelites. How did things end up for Mordecai personally? How have we seen God do similar things for people throughout Scripture?
6. Pastor Jim drew some pretty powerful applications from Mordecai’s story. How did his story echo the life of Jesus? How does his story connect to the dedication of Calvary’s new Gathering Place and Calvary Kids Ministry Area? In addition, how might it connect to your own journey and story?

To close, as always, spend some time sharing what the message meant to you, how you might feel called to respond and cover each other in prayer.