

TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: Everyday Heroes
Message: The Right Stuff
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The history in the book of Esther is a strong reminder for us to be faithful to trust and obey God. He is able and willing to do much more than we could even imagine. This episode is regularly celebrated by Jewish people as probably their most joyful holiday of the year – Purim. Here is when it was established:

²⁹Then Queen Esther, the daughter of Abihail, along with Mordecai the Jew, wrote another letter putting the queen's full authority behind Mordecai's letter to establish the Festival of Purim. ³⁰ Letters wishing peace and security were sent to the Jews throughout the 127 provinces of the empire of Xerxes. ³¹ These letters established the Festival of Purim—an annual celebration of these days at the appointed time, decreed by both Mordecai the Jew and Queen Esther. (The people decided to observe this festival, just as they had decided for themselves and their descendants to establish the times of fasting and mourning.) ³² So the command of Esther confirmed the practices of Purim, and it was all written down in the records.

Esther 9:29-32 (NLT)

This week, set aside 30 to 40 minutes to read the short book of Esther. As you do, reflect on the four main people involved. Consider how their actions and motivations impact the situation as it unfolds.

Now, think about a situation in your life that you are facing and ask yourself the following questions:

Am I willing to pursue getting wise advice to help me navigate? What does the Bible say about my situation? Who do I know that is spiritually mature that can help me?

Am I being faithful to trust and obey God with what I already know that I should be doing? Is honoring God a top priority for me or merely an occasional pursuit?

What can I do to help me remember that God is at work behind the scenes? For example, having a friend or two that I confide in and are praying for me. Asking my Small Group to help me stay hopeful is a key benefit of being in a group.

As you trust and obey God, what might He be working to do in and through your life? What areas of character and behavior is He working to develop in me? How is He building my "faith muscles"?

Who is watching my life and observing how I handle things? What can they learn/benefit from by my courage, endurance and faithfulness?

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

NLT - New Living Translation
NIV- New International Version
TLB- The Living Bible
Phillips- Phillips New Testament