

# *Now or Never: The Book of Esther*



## **“Life of Purpose”**

Esther 4:4-17

Pastor Jon Brewer

July 26th, 2020

## Notes:

I. Cover Up

II. Discerning the Call

III. Now or Never

Next week: Now Or Never: The Book of Esther “Baby Steps of Courage” Esther 5:1-14 Speaker: Pastor Jon Brewer

# Upward + Outward: Esther 4:4-17

July 26, 2020

Ask God to lead you in applying today's passage. Below are some ideas to help.

**READ-** Follow the attached daily Bible reading plan to gain further insight on this topic.

**STUDY-** Use your Study Bible to research the topic of fasting.

**CONFESS-** Sometimes our fears can be disproportionate to the situation. Confess where you have forgotten or refused to cry out to God in times of anxiety or fear.

**PRAY-** Ask God to hear your anxiety and fears. Then reflect on any of the Daily Bible Reading passages for this week. Tell God what you need to learn.

**PRAISE-** Romans 8:28 says "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose"--praise Him that He will work in and through the really scary situations.

**GATHER-** Prepare for D group by reading Sunday's passage again and answering the attached questions.

**INVEST-** Ask someone 'older in the faith' about a time where God delivered them out of a really fearful situation or circumstance OR share your story with someone 'younger in the faith'

**GIVE-** Increase your faith by asking God how and where you can be generous to someone struggling through a difficult or scary time in their life

**INVITE-** Invite a fellow member of Grace to sojourn with you and encourage you as you wait for God to deliver you out of a difficult or scary circumstance.

**CREATE-** write your own application down here:

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# Upward + Outward: Esther 4:4-17

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## DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN

**Monday:** Jonah's Prayer -- Jonah 2:1-10

**Tuesday:** I Cry Out Day and Night Before You -- Psalm 88:1-18

**Wednesday:** Joseph Provides for His Brothers and Family -- Genesis 45:1-28

**Thursday:** God's Good Purposes -- Genesis 50:15-26

**Friday:** Deliver Me, O Lord -- Psalm 120:1-7

**Saturday:** Tomorrow's Passage -- Esther 5:1-14

## IN THIS PASSAGE, IS THERE A...

- Sin to avoid?
- Prayer/Promise/Praise?
- Example to follow?
- Command to obey?
- Knowledge to remember?
- Question I still have?

## (Virtual) D GROUP QUESTIONS:

**1** Read Daniel 3:16-18. Esther and the Jews in Persia would have heard of this story from their parents and elders. What is your reaction to that?

**2** Why does Mordecai tell Esther that being in the king's palace would not allow her to escape any more than all the other Jews (v4:13)? What might he have been thinking/feeling?

**3** Can you think of a past situation where you were unsafe and couldn't immediately see a way out? What happened?

**TOUGH:** Do you struggle with getting filled with anxiety or fear? What helps you to put your fear within a Biblical *Esther-like perspective*?