

October 24, 2015

Esther 2:1-20

While God is not mentioned in the book of Esther, He is the key figure in the story. Though He may appear to be absent, He is constantly at work behind the scenes, orchestrating every detail in Esther's life - just like He does in our own. God's handiwork is interwoven within the tapestry of each of our lives. Thus, we can live with a sense of peace, knowing that despite our circumstances – whether good or bad – He is always present, ever working, and wholly trustworthy.

Questions:

1. If you really believed that God is sovereign, how would that change how you think, believe, feel and live?
2. During times when you are feeling pressed in on all sides, what weaknesses are typically exposed in your life? Give examples of your tendencies and defaults.
3. Think of a time when you were walking a predetermined path that seemed random at the time. Discuss how God's hand was at work.
4. Esther – a female, Jew, orphan, and twice exiled – found herself in a palace, placed there according to the sovereign will of God. Where has God placed you? (Consider the roles and relationships you have in life.)
5. Esther underwent a year long preparation to win favor and influence with the king. Read the verses below. What are some preparations that could help you win favor and influence others for the Kingdom?
 - a. 1 Peter 3:3-4
 - b. Colossians 3:12-14
 - c. Philippians 2:3-4
 - d. Ephesians 4:29, 32
 - e. Colossians 4:5-6