



Esther 4:12-17

12 When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, **13** Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, “Do not think that in the king’s palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. **14** For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father’s family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.” **15** Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai, **16** “Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law; and if I perish, I perish.” **17** Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

REFLECT & DISCUSS

Context

There’s a decree that’s been issued against the Jews. The king has been convinced by his right-hand man that the Jews are a religious and cultural threat and need to be taken care of. The king is convinced and sets out the decree to annihilate the Jews. All the while, not knowing that the love of his life, the woman he has just married, is secretly Jewish.

His queen, Esther, was taken to him by her uncle Mordecai who has adopted Esther as his own after the death of her parents. Esther is now being asked by Mordecai to take an unthinkable risk to save her people.

Big Ideas

- No call from God comes without some kind of risk.
- No call from God comes without some kind of heartbreak.
- No call from God comes without immense joy.

Reflect

1. Read the scripture passage carefully and slowly. What word or image stands out to you? Why?
2. What kind of risk is God asking you to take?
3. Who or what is your heart breaking for? How do you think you should respond?
4. Where are you missing out on joy because you’re ignoring the call God has placed on your life?