

GODLY LEADERSHIP ESTHER

Pray and ask God to help you to know Him better as you study His Word.

Read the Bible passage (preferably without using commentaries).

Begin to answer the questions using your own words.

**Questions are based on New International Version (NIV)*

Lesson 10 • Esther 5 • December 1, 2010

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of **Esther 4** has helped you?

SECTION I: READ ESTHER 5:1-8

2. In **V1**, what does "On the third day..." refer to? (See Esther 4:16)
3. In **V2-5**, what were the actions of the King and the character traits those actions revealed?
4. In **V4**, what was Esther's request to the King?
5. In **V6**, what was the King doing, and what did he again ask and promise to Esther?
6. a) How did Esther respond, and what was her tone in **V7-8**?

b) Why do you think she made this request two times instead of coming right out with her intended request?

7. From this passage, what qualities do you admire in Esther? What qualities make her a Godly leader?

SECTION II: READ ESTHER 5:9-14

8. Contrast the two emotions Haman felt when he went home in **V9**?

9. a) In **V10-12**, list the things Haman bragged about to his wife and friends?

b) Based on **V13** write a truth that is common to fallen man.

10. a) What do you learn about Haman's wife and friends based on the advice they gave in **V14**?

b) What did Haman think of this suggestion?

11. In **V9-14**, what characteristics do you see in Haman?

12. Consider the contrast of Esther's and Haman's character in this chapter.
Where in your own life do you see the qualities of Esther and/or of Haman?

13. In what current situation do you want to respond with the humility and patience of Esther? Write a prayer to the Lord asking Him to help you respond out of humility rather than pride.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Esther came to petition the King with fear and uncertainty because she was not summoned to approach the king.

a) What do the following passages teach about how to approach God in prayer?

Psalm 66:18-20 _____

Matthew 6:6-8 _____

John 15:7, 16b _____

Hebrews 4:16 _____

1 John 5:14,15 _____

Jude 20 _____

b) Contrast the believer's approach to God's throne of grace, and Esther's approach to King Xerxes in Esther 4:11

