

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 9 • Esther 4 • November 17, 2010

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of **Esther 3** has helped you?

SECTION I: READ ESTHER 4:1-5

2. In **V1-3**, describe the response of Mordecai and of the Jews to Haman's edict.
3. What do you think was the significance of putting on sackcloth and ashes?
4. In **V4**, what did Esther do when she heard that Mordecai was in sackcloth and wailing, and how did he respond?
5. What was Esther's next action (**V5**)?

SECTION II: READ ESTHER 4:6-11

6. a) What information did Mordecai give to the servant in **V7-8**?

b) What two things did Mordecai ask Esther to do when she went to the King?

12. What Godly character traits do you need in order to take the actions Esther decided to take?

13. Recall an instance in your life where obeying God meant taking a risk. How did you feel? What did you pray?

OR

Think of a present situation in which God has placed you to do His will. What risks do you face in doing the right thing?

14. Based on chapter 4, write a prayer asking God to give you the courage in your current situation to fulfill His purposes.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. a) There are several times in the book of Esther where fasting is mentioned (see Esther 4:3 and Esther 9:31). Write down what you learn about fasting from the following verses:

1 Samuel 7:2-6 _____

2 Samuel 12:16 _____

Ezra 8:21-23 _____

Nehemiah 9:1-5 _____

Daniel 9:3 _____

Joel 2:12-15 _____

b) How do these examples in Scripture cause you to think differently about fasting?

2. a) Read the following passages, and identify some wrong approaches to fasting:

Isaiah 58:5-10 _____

Jeremiah 14:10-13 _____

Matthew 6:16-18 _____

b) Write a truth about fasting.

