



CHOICES

THE MOMENTS THAT CHANGE LIVES

WEEK 1. For Such a Time as This

On Sunday Pastor Josh kicked off a new sermon series titled “Choices.” The heart of this series is to explore how the trajectory of our lives are determined and altered by the choices we make along the way and particularly in certain key moments. Pastor Josh began the series by preaching on the first half of the book of Esther and will finish out the second half next week so please encourage your folks to listen to this message if they missed it on Sunday.

Introduction Questions: What was a choice you made that ended up having a major impact on your life even though you didn’t realize that would happen at the time?

Bible Study: Esther 4:6-17

⁶ So Hathak went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king’s gate. ⁷ Mordecai told him everything that had happened to him, including the exact amount of money Haman had promised to pay into the royal treasury for the destruction of the Jews. ⁸ He also gave him a copy of the text of the edict for their annihilation, which had been published in Susa, to show to Esther and explain it to her, and he told him to instruct her to go into the king’s presence to beg for mercy and plead with him for her people. ⁹ Hathak went back and reported to Esther what Mordecai had said. ¹⁰ Then she instructed him to say to Mordecai, ¹¹ “All the king’s officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the king in the inner court without being summoned the king has but one law: that they be put to death unless the king extends the gold scepter to them and spares their lives. But thirty days have passed since I was called to go to the king.” ¹² When Esther’s words were reported to Mordecai, ¹³ he sent back this answer: “Do not think that because you are in the king’s house you alone of all the Jews will escape. ¹⁴ For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?” ¹⁵ Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: ¹⁶ “Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.” ¹⁷ So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther’s instructions.

Either in a large group or in small groups of 3-4:

- 1) What strikes you about this story?
- 2) What do we learn about God?
- 3) What do we learn about people?
- 4) What do we learn about choices/making choices?
- 5) What might God be trying to say to me through this passage? Then pray for each other off this.