

GOD & VOCATION BIBLE STUDY

PURPOSE

Remember that we are meeting together to discover and discuss any connections we see between spirituality and vocation. Although our study will flow from a Christian worldview, we welcome perspectives from other faith and non-faith traditions. What we do with our bodies and our lives, our *vocation*, matters deeply. We will explore how our vocation can be a participation in God's work of renewing all things and how vocation is related to the career we are pursuing.

GATHERING (5 MINUTES)

- Which next step did you try after our last study? How did it go?
- What did you learn about yourself, humanity, or God?

SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION (35 MINUTES)

Today we will look at the story of Esther, an ancient Hebrew woman who played a critical role in saving the people of God from destruction. Since this story is 10 chapters long, we will receive it by watching a 9-minute [summary of the book of Esther](#) from the Bible Project.

- What do you appreciate about this content?
- What makes you wonder? What do you disagree with?
- Who are the key characters in this story, and what is at stake for each of them?

This text is most known for the moment when Mordecai challenges Esther to advocate for her people despite the risk: "Don't think for a moment that because you're in the palace you will escape when all other Jews are killed. If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?" (Esther 4:13–14 NLT).

- If you were in Esther's position, how would you have responded? Why?

NEXT STEPS (5 MINUTES)

Discuss: In your field of study and work, what positions might you find yourself in that could contribute to rescuing or greatly blessing people? How willing are you to take risks to use your position for serving others?