



Esther – Message 5

Announcements

Register for each PATHWAY class below at ChurchoftheKing.com.

- **101 Starting Point – Sunday, July 6th** at 5:00 pm at all campuses. 101 Starting Point is the first step in Pathway. Find out how you can find your place at Church of the King by learning about the vision and mission of the church.
- **201 Dream Team Orientation – Sunday, July 13th** at 5:00 pm at all campuses. 201 Dream Team Orientation is the second step in Pathway and your place to find a great place to serve at Church of the King.

Warm-up

If you had to choose between the following adventures, which would you choose and why?

1. Hike in the mountains
2. Go to the beach
3. Travel to a foreign city
4. Take a cruise

God made us wonderfully unique with different personalities and passions. But one thing we all share is the desire to find our place in life. In the book of Esther we discover how God raised up an exiled orphan to reign as Queen of the Persian Empire. Unbeknownst to Esther, God would give her a unique purpose – to save her people and an entire nation. Let's take a deeper look at Esther's courageous story of how she found her place in history.

Word and Application

Read the words of King David in **Psalm 33:11**. What does this verse speak to you?

Esther is a perfect reminder that even in uncertain moments, God has a plan for each of us. Today we are going to review three things we need to discover our purpose and find our place.

Three Ingredients to Find Your Place

1. Finding your place requires great faith and trust.

Read Esther 2:17. Share a time when God gave you favor with others in a challenging situation.

Faith and trust stem from *believing* that God is working on your behalf and *knowing* that He will fulfill the plans He has for you. Read how David expresses both faith and trust in **Psalm 31:14-15**. What are ways we can increase our faith and trust in God?

2. Finding your place requires great courage.

You may have heard the expression, “Courage is not the absence of fear; courage is what you do in spite of fear.” We have to exercise courage to walk in the plans God has laid before us.

Read **Esther 4:13-14**. What do you think was going through Esther’s mind? Tell about a moment when you exercised courage to overcome a fear?

Now read **Isaiah 41:10**. How can you apply this verse to the challenging situations in your life?

3. Finding your place requires great initiative.

Read Esther 4:16. Stepping into your place often involves taking a risk. If we do not have the resolve to step out, we may miss out on our purpose. Risks may involve potential loss of security, reputation, finances or a set back. Esther placed her life on the line to help save a people.

What are some things God may be asking you to risk to find your place?

Esther exemplifies a person who remained steady amidst uncertainty and who trusted God to take the next step towards her purpose. What next step(s) is God prompting you to take towards your purpose and place?

Prayer

Pray for God to reveal the unique plan and place for each person in your small group and for the courage to step out towards their purpose. Also, take time to ask for specific prayer requests from those in your small group.