

YOUR TIME IS NOW!

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

Esther was a remarkable woman God used to be a changemaker during her time. Her story unfolds with King Ahasuerus of Persia searching for a new queen to replace his deposed wife, Queen Vashti. Among all the women in the kingdom, Esther was chosen to be the new queen. However, her appointment was not a coincidence but rather part of God's plan for her life. Even though God's name is not mentioned in the book of Esther, His hand is evident throughout Esther's story and its cast of characters: King Ahasuerus (also known as Xerxes), Mordecai (Esther's adoptive father), and Haman (the antagonist). The book of Esther underscores that we are all appointed for a purpose, and we can trust that God has a plan for our lives. If we are willing to follow His lead, we can make a significant impact on the world around us.

SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

In Esther 2:21-23, Mordecai's discovery of a plot to kill the king seemed insignificant at the time, but it was recorded in the king's Book of Chronicles, and later played a crucial role in the events that unfolded. In Esther 3:1-2, we see Haman, an enemy of the Jews, being promoted to a position of power by the king. When Mordecai refused to bow down to him, Haman sought to not only destroy Mordecai but all the Jews. Haman's plan was insidious, and it seemed like there was no hope for Esther and her people. Just as Esther and Mordecai stood firm in their faith in God and His promises, we too should stand firm and trust that God is always at work, even when we can't see it.

SURRENDER TO GOD

When Mordecai and the Jews learned of Haman's plan to destroy them, they were devastated and wondered where God was in all of this (Esther 4:1-3). Esther also felt apprehensive about going to the king uninvited to plead for her people's safety. However, Mordecai reminded Esther that she was appointed by God for "such a time as this" (Esther 4:14). Esther's response to

Mordecai's reminder shows her surrender to God's sovereignty (Esther 4:15-16). She chose to trust God and act despite her fear. This is a reminder that we are where we are for a reason, and that God can use us to fulfill His purposes. On the other hand, Haman's hatred for the Jews was not yet done. He planned to have Mordecai hanged in public (Esther 5:13-14), but the king recalled what Mordecai did for him, and he ironically used Haman's selfish idea to honor Mordecai (Esther 6:1-11). This shows us that God is in control of all things, that even the plans of the enemy can be turned around for good, and those who plot evil will ultimately face the consequences of their actions.

STAND IN THE GAP

Esther's bravery and obedience led her to gain favor before the king and petition for her people's safety, leading to the downfall of Haman and the deliverance of the Jews (Esther 7:1-5, 8:3-8). Like Esther, we are called to stand in the gap for those around us. We may not always know the full extent of God's plan, but we can trust that our obedience and faithfulness will be used to make a difference in the lives of those we encounter. We can also look to Jesus as our example. In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus surrendered to God's will and mission, despite the agony He knew He would face (Luke 22:41-44). And ultimately, Jesus stood in the gap for us on the cross, taking the punishment for our sins so that we may be saved (1 Peter 3:18).

Let us follow in Esther and Jesus' footsteps and stand in the gap for others. Let us put our trust in God's sovereignty and allow Him to use us to make a difference in the world. Remember that YOUR TIME IS NOW, and you have the potential to be a changemaker for the LORD for such a time as this!

LAST WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?

ESTHER 4:14

DISCUSS THIS MESSAGE

What situation in your life do you need to surrender to the sovereignty of God?

What is preventing you from telling people about Jesus (sharing your testimony, sharing the Gospel, starting to make disciples)?

How does Esther's story help you overcome these obstacles? What will you do about it?

DOWNLOAD THIS CHRONICLE ONLINE!

ccf.org.ph/chronicle/

DOWNLOAD THIS SUNDAY'S 4WS EVERY MONDAY!

ccf.org.ph/4ws/



Don't forget the most important thing this summer!

Is it putting on sunscreen? An umbrella? No, it's knowing more and learning about Jesus!

See you at the Welcome Center, 2nd floor lobby!

STEP INTO THE COMMUNITY

Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

WOMEN2WOMEN

ALL WOMEN

She Did What?!: Priscilla Women Who Made a Difference with Sasa Felipe

May 11, Thursday

10:00 AM, Multi-Purpose Hall

ALSO STREAMED ONLINE

 ccfwomen2women
 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

Women Living Free

for women seeking answers on gender identity and God's design

Wednesdays, 7:00 PM via Zoom

 (0917) 545 9129
 (0921) 547 9381

NXTGEN

KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

Changemakers:
Be God's Agents for Change

Sundays, 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM

G/F North Wing, CCF Center

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

  ccfnxtgen for ages 4-12
 zoom for ages 7-12

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

SATURDAYS, 5:00 PM
MULTI-PURPOSE HALL

ALSO STREAMING LIVE AT

 Christ's Commission Fellowship
 BIG Ministry
 Elevate Main

JOIN US ON SUNDAYS

AT CCF CENTER

10:00 AM (English)

3:00 PM (Filipino)

ONLINE

10:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

 ccf.org.ph  ccfmain  ccfmainTV

ON TV AND RADIO

Visit ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/ for the list of broadcast TV channels and radio stations.

LEARN MORE

ABOUT THE FAITH

Continue to be equipped in your discipleship journey.

Join GLC's Training Cycle 2 this June 2023!

GLC Level 1 — Face-to-Face

Book 1: One by One

Book 3: The Holy Spirit

GLC Level 1 — Zoom Cycle 2

Book 1: One by One

Book 3: The Holy Spirit

GLC Level 2 — Zoom Cycle 1

Book 5: Starting Point for Small Groups

GLC Level 3 Lead — Zoom Cycle 1

Module 1: The Multiplier

Go to bit.ly/GLCTraining2023 to register

JOIN AND PARTICIPATE

Come together with the community to learn and grow, or to retreat and recharge!

Premarital Counseling Class Online Class

OPEN TO SINGLE AND ENGAGED COUPLES

May 25 - July 25

Enrolment is open until May 22 **only**

Visit go.ccf.org.ph/PMCOOnlineFAQs for details

Register at go.ccf.org.ph/PMCOOnline2023

B1G True Life Retreat: #BestWeekendEver

OPEN TO SINGLES 20-45 YEARS OLD

June 16 - 18, Mt. Makiling Re-Creation Center

RETREAT FEE: PHP4,500

Visit the booth at the G/F lobby to register



LOOKING FOR ANSWERS? THINK YOUR VISIT IS A COINCIDENCE? YOUR BEING HERE TODAY IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here for His purpose.

1 God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness** to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments — Deuteronomy 7:9*

2 God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. — Romans 3:23

3 God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. — Romans 5:8

I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. — John 14:6

4 God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. — John 3:16

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. — Ephesians 2:8-9

5 God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. — 1 John 5:11-13