

Week Four
Esther 4:1-4

Each of these verses in Esther 4:1-4 can be its own topic of thought and conversation. We will focus on these verses and discuss mourning, taking our troubles to God, and finding peace and rest in His presence.

Day One

Read Esther 4:1

In verse one, how did Mordecai mourn when he learned of the edict?

How do you mourn over life situations?

Is there a scripture that you have memorized that has helped you through hard times? List verses below.

Throughout scripture, God promises His people rest and restoration. In Jeremiah, God says that there will be joy and celebration because of His bringing the chosen people to safety and restoring them.

In the midst of hearing the edict in Esther, do you think Mordecai remembered God's promise of rest?

Has there been a time in your life that in the midst of your troubles you were able to remember God's promises?

How did you rest on His truths?

Write God's promises below.

Day Two

Read Esther 4:2

In verse two, why could Mordecai only go the king's gate?

Looking at this from a spiritual perspective, what is keeping you from entering into your Father's presence?

Is there something in your past, or a present situation, that is keeping you from living your life abundantly with the Lord? Use the space below to write out the situation you believe is keeping you from the Lord.

Read Psalms 139. As you read these verses, write your thoughts of how God looks at you and what all He knows about you.

Read Romans 8:37-39. Do you think this pertains to you? Explain your thoughts.

Day Three

Read Esther 4:3

Why do you think the Jews fasted, as we read in verse 3?

When do you see others fast in the Bible? (Look up scripture outside of Esther. If you don't have a concordance, go to www.biblegateway.com to help with your search.)

The Jews had a royal command placed against them because of one man's decision - the consequences of a worldly, government law now affected all their lives. People would possibly be affected by this consequence for year's to come. In contrast, God gave His people law to help them, not to bring harm to them.

Think of God's law that we have been taught in scripture. Name some consequences of not obeying God's laws that touch lives today.

In Esther, we see that the Jews fasted as a result of the law that was placed before them. Today, when we are attacked by worldly decisions that will have major consequences on our lives, what do we see our nation do?

What does the Christian community do? Should we be doing something else? Explain your answer.

Day Four
Read Esther 4:4

In verse four, what did Esther try to do for Mordecai when she heard of his situation?

What was Mordecai's reaction?

What are you trying to fix and "make it better" in the lives of those you love?

What does scripture say about praying for others? Look up verses outside of Esther and record them below.

Do you think this would be a way for you to help your loved ones? Explain your answer.

Day Five

Read Esther 4:1-4

Review what you've learned this week from studying Esther 4:1-4. In what ways has your thinking changed as a result of these verses?

In closing, read Psalm 57. How does God want to help you in your current situation?

Pray this Psalm to the Lord this week as you think about your situation and how God wants to help you and those you are wanting to help. Write your prayer below.