

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR READ THROUGH THE BIBLE STUDY FOR 1/23/13**

- 1. MORDECAI ENCOURAGED QUEEN ESTHER WITH THE WORDS, "AND WHO KNOWS BUT THAT YOU HAVE COME TO ROYAL POSITION FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS" (ESTHER 4:14B)? APPLY THESE WORDS TO YOUR OWN LIFE. WHAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE TO GOD ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU AT "SUCH A TIME AS THIS?"**
  
- 2. TO APPROACH THE KING UNINVITED IN ANCIENT PERSIA WAS TO RISK DEATH. YET, WHEN ESTHER CAME BEFORE THE KING UNDER SUCH CONDITIONS, THE KING WAS PLEASED WITH HER AND WELCOMED HER INTO HIS PRESENCE, ASKING THAT HE MIGHT GRANT HER REQUEST (ESTHER 5:1-2). UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS DOES GOD SIMILARLY WELCOME US BEFORE HIS THRONE OF GRACE? SEE HEBREWS 4:14-16. ULTIMATELY, ESTHER ASKED FOR A REQUEST ON BEHALF OF HER PEOPLE. WHAT REQUESTS ON BEHALF OF OTHERS MIGHT YOU MAKE TODAY IN JESUS' NAME?**
  
- 3. REVIEW ESTHER 8-10. ACTING UPON ESTHER'S REQUEST, KING XERXES GRANTED GOD'S PEOPLE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES IN HIS KINGDOM. WHAT RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES IN GOD'S ETERNAL KINGDOM ARE OURS THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS? SEE GALATIANS 4:5-7.**
  
- 4. DESCRIBE JOB'S APPROACH TO LIFE AS YOU CONSIDER HIS WORDS IN JOB 1:21.**
  
- 5. EXPLAIN JOB'S WORDS RECORDED IN JOB 2:10 IN LIGHT OF OF HEBREWS 12:5-11.**
  
- 6. WHY DO YOU THINK CHRISTIANS SOMETIMES FACE PERIODS OF HARDSHIP, ILLNESS, AND DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE SAME TYPE OF REASONING AS JOB'S FRIEND ELIPHAZ EXPLAINS IN JOB 4:3-8?**