

# Growth Group Discussion Q's

May 10, 2026

- **Fun Discussion Starter:** Describe one “high” from you week as well as one “low.”

## Dramatic Reversal – Esther

In the book of Esther, the author wants the reader to wrestle with two questions:

1. Where is God?
2. What is in control of the things I cannot control?

## Where is God?

The name of God or any reference to faith is completely absent from the book of Esther. This is an intentional literary device to draw the reader to think more deeply about the circumstances of the main characters. Is God present in our day-to-day circumstances and personal interactions?

To assist in answering this question, the writer draws attention to several coincidences and ironies that are so numerous and integral to the story, one is compelled to ask the second question:

## What is in control of the things I cannot control?

Is it fate? Luck? Chance? Or Destiny? Or...is there a God who is at work in all things to bring about his purpose and will in the world?

Consider the following ways the writer draws attention to timing, coincidence and chance:

- Mordecai happens to be in a position to overhear a conspiracy and reports it (2:19-23)
- Haman casts lots to determine the month of the Jews annihilation (3:7)
- Mordecai speculates that Esther just might be in her royal position “for such a time as this” (4:14)
- Esther leaves her fate into the hands of chance – “if I perish, I perish.” (4:16)
- Haman plots to request that the king have Mordecai executed but that very night the king can't sleep and has the chronicles of Persia read to him and is reminded of Mordecai's loyalty (6:1-3)
- Haman unknowingly decides how Mordecai should be honored and is forced to carry out the command (6:6-11)
- At the very next banquet Esther reveals her true identity as a Jew – the very people whom Haman had tricked the king to agree to annihilate (7:5-7)
- Haman is executed on the very pole he had erected for Mordecai (7:9)

Discussion Questions:

- What do you think about these coincidences and ironies? Do they point to random chance or a God who is at work to bring about good on behalf of his people?

- How should this affect how you see the world you live in? What is your view of God's role in your life as it relates to the circumstances and interactions around you that you cannot control?
- Read Romans 8:28. How does this passage apply to the book Esther? How does it apply to your life right now?