

INTRODUCTION: 2020 was an unprecedented time. A “once in a lifetime” series of events that turned our entire world and current way of life upside down. Through all the chaos, we might wonder if God is at work and what our proper response should be. The book of Esther echoes many of these current cultural themes, and that is why it is the focus of our summer sermon series. By studying Esther, we want to ask hard questions, to be inspired when we find ourselves in places or positions we didn’t seek, and to feel encouraged when we aren’t sure we have what it takes to succeed. And we want to be reminded that God is still at work in the cultural chaos, accomplishing His good purposes today.

CENTERING: Take a moment to center yourself for communion with God.

READING: Book of Esther (Character focus: Counselors)

REFLECTING ON SERMON & SCRIPTURE:

- Share a time when you have given counsel to someone or received counsel from someone. What was the message centered around (i.e. fear, self-interest, godly wisdom)? What was the impact of that experience?
- Why is it important to seek wise and godly counsel?
- How can you discern when you are giving or receiving godly counsel?

PRAYING:

Take a moment to share prayer requests with one another and spend time in prayer over those requests.