**The Book of Esther**

Daily Devotional Week 4

**Day 1: The Danger of Pride**

**Scripture Reading: Esther 5:9-14, Proverbs 16:18-19, James 4:6-10**

Haman's pride and self-absorption led him to plot murder over a simple slight. Pride blinds us to our own faults while magnifying the perceived offenses of others.

* In what areas of your life do you struggle with pride?
* How has pride affected your relationships with others?
* What practical steps can you take to cultivate humility?

Prayer: Lord, forgive me for the times pride has controlled my actions. Help me to walk in humility, seeing others as You see them. Amen.

**Day 2: God Working Behind the Scenes Scripture**

**Reading: Esther 6:1-11, Isaiah 45:15, Romans 8:28**

Even when God seems absent, He is orchestrating events for His purposes. The king's sleepless night was no coincidence, but divine providence at work.

* Looking back, where have you seen God working "behind the scenes" in your life?
* How does knowing God is always at work change your perspective on current challenges?
* What situations in your life need to be surrendered to God's timing?

Prayer: Father, thank You for working even when I can't see it. Help me trust Your perfect timing and sovereign control. Amen.

**Day 3: Responding to Enemies**

**Scripture Reading: Romans 12:17-21, Matthew 5:43-48**

Our natural instinct is to seek revenge, but God calls us to a higher standard - loving our enemies and leaving justice to Him.

* Who are the "Hamans" in your life that are difficult to love?
* How can you practically show love to those who oppose you?
* What makes it hard to trust God with justice instead of taking matters into your own hands?

Prayer: Jesus, give me Your supernatural love for those who hurt me. Help me release my desire for revenge and trust Your justice. Amen.

**Day 4: The Power of Faithfulness**

**Scripture Reading: Esther 2:19-23, 6:1-3, Psalm 37:3-6**

Mordecai's earlier faithfulness in exposing the plot against the king was remembered at just the right time. Our consistent faithfulness matters, even when it seems forgotten.

* Where is God calling you to remain faithful in this season?
* How do you stay motivated when your faithfulness seems unnoticed?
* What "small acts" of faithfulness might God use later in unexpected ways?

Prayer: Lord, help me to be faithful in both small and large matters. Give me perseverance when I'm tempted to give up. Amen.

**Day 5: God's Perfect Justice**

**Scripture Reading: Esther 7:1-10, Psalm 37:7-9, Galatians 6:7-8**

Haman's downfall came through his own devices - the very gallows he built for Mordecai. God's justice may not come on our timeline, but it always comes perfectly.

* How does God's perfect justice differ from human revenge?
* What situations do you need to release to God's justice?
* How can you maintain faith while waiting for God to act?

Prayer: Righteous Father, help me trust Your perfect justice. Give me patience to wait for Your timing and wisdom to respond as You would have me respond. Amen.