



Part 5: Parenting with Purpose

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Parenting Principles from the Book of Esther

Mordecai had a cousin named Hadassah, whom he had brought up because she had neither father nor mother. This young woman, who was also known as Esther, had a lovely figure and was beautiful. Mordecai had taken her as his own daughter when her father and mother died. – Esther 2:7

Applications: Parenting is a decision (that should made each day)

Parenting is a call to protection.

All the royal officials at the king's gate knelt down and paid honor to Haman, for the king had commanded this concerning him. But Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor. Then the royal officials at the king's gate asked Mordecai, "Why do you disobey the king's command?" Day after day they spoke to him but he refused to comply. – Esther 3:2-4

Application: Godly parenting models biblical character.

When Esther's words were reported to Mordecai, he sent back this answer: "Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?" – Esther 4:12-14

Application: Godly parenting calls out godly purpose and courage.

Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish." So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther's instructions. – Esther 4:15-17

Application: Godly parenting results in godly conviction.

(Continues on back)

When Mordecai left the king's presence, he was wearing royal garments of blue and white, a large crown of gold and a purple robe of fine linen. And the city of Susa held a joyous celebration. For the Jews it was a time of happiness and joy, gladness and honor. In every province and in every city to which the edict of the king came, there was joy and gladness among the Jews, with feasting and celebrating. — Esther 8:15-17

Application: Godly parenting influences nations.

King Xerxes imposed tribute throughout the empire, to its distant shores. And all his acts of power and might, together with a full account of the greatness of Mordecai, whom the king had promoted, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Media and Persia? Mordecai the Jew was second in rank to King Xerxes, preeminent among the Jews, and held in high esteem by his many fellow Jews, because he worked for the good of his people and spoke up for the welfare of all the Jews. — Esther 10:1-3

Application: Godly parenting is worthy of high honor.

Next Steps

On the weekend of July 9 & 10, baptism will be part of every weekend service at the Bellingham campus. Baptism is open to anyone who's accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior, but **it's also a great moment to exercise godly parenting.**

If you're a parent who has never been baptized, this is a perfect opportunity to model godly character and obedience to your child by being baptized yourself. **If your child has accepted Jesus but never been baptized**, this is the perfect opportunity to call out godly purpose and courage in your child by encouraging them toward baptism (you're welcome to be in the tank with your child). **If both of those statements are true**, imagine the family impact if both you and your child were baptized!

If you and/or your child would like to be baptized, sign up at the Connection Point by July 3 or contact Diane Hoffer (x231 or dianeh@ctkbellingham.com). A required 1-hour baptism class is taught 1 week prior (July 2 at 7:15 PM or July 3 at 12:45 PM).

If you attend the Ferndale campus, watch for details regarding baptism at one of our outdoor services later this summer.

Small Group Questions



- 1) Who did you have a stronger relationship with: your mother or your father? Why?
- 2) Share with the group five things your parent(s) got right in raising you.
- 3) Share with the group three mistakes your parent(s) made in raising you that you would not want repeated.
- 4) What is one life lesson either your mother or father instilled in you that has produced godly results?
- 5) Which of the applications listed above is an area that you need to work on within your family context? What will you do to make it happen?
- 6) As you go to prayer today, I want to encourage you to make either your children or your parents the prayer focus. Create a culture of honor as you pray about those God has gifted you with in your life.