



DIDN'T SEE IT COMING | PART 4 - MOVING FROM FEAR TO COURAGE



READ

Esther 3:13-15



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- 1. What is the big announcement that is being sent out all over the Persian empire through this edict?
- 2. The text says that "the city of Susa was bewildered" by this announcement. Tell about a time that you received some bad news and how you reacted to it.
- **3.** What do you think it means that "Character is revealed when pressure is applied." Do you agree with that statement? Why or why not?
- **4.** What has been most surprising or revealing to you about your own reaction to the current crisis of COVID19 and our shelter-in-place reality?



READ

Esther 4:1-11



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- **1.** Why was it such a big deal that Mordecai asked Queen Esther to go before the king to beg for mercy?
- **2.** What are some of the hard realities that you are facing right now? (examples: loss of job, broken systems of communication at home, thought life driven by fear, lack of self-control, lack of emotional/mental/physical health, etc...)
- 3. When confronted with hard realities in your own life, what are some of your natural responses?



READ

Esther 4:12-17



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- **1.** In verse 16, Esther asks Mordecai to gather the Jews to pray & fast for her, and she says that she will do the same with her girls. Why is it so helpful to have community support during moments of uncertainty or crisis? Do you feel like you have a strong group of people supporting you right now?
- 2. When confronted with the hard reality of potential annihilation, Esther chose to respond by fasting and praying. She invited God into her circumstances to make a way where there was no way. What does "seeking God" mean to you?
- **3.** Esther resolved to go before the king, even if it cost her her life. What is the next right step for you? What cost is involved in following through with that decision?
- **4.** Stacie said in her message, "The pain of regret is worse than the pain of obedience to God." Have you found that to be true in your own life? Do you have any examples you could share?