

GROWTH GROUP QUESTIONS

GROUP BUILDER

Have you ever won a contest? Which one? What was at stake? Were you confident of success, or afraid you might not win?

REFLECTION

What new insight or challenge did you receive about God's hand in success in life?

DEEPER (Large Group Discussion)

Even though God has not been directly mentioned in the book, what evidences of His hand at work do you see in this chapter?

What do you think God's purpose was in keeping Esther's ethnic origin secret?

Do you see coincidence or providence at work behind the scenes in this chapter? Discuss your reasoning for what you see. How can faith in God's sovereignty impact our everyday living?

APPLICATION (In Groups of 3-4)

When confronted by life circumstances, do you tend to see chance, design, or God's hand? What do you think, and how do you feel about the ultimate control of God?

How do you tend to respond when rules or values are "put on" you that vary from your own?

Where do you see God's hand moving in circumstances in your life right now? How do you think He wants you to respond? What hinders you from walking in God's plan for your life?

Pray for God's favor to be on you, that He would make your heart teachable, and that you would rest in the knowledge that God is watching your life and the world we live in. Also, pray for any specific needs.

ALERT!

Please turn off all cell phones, pagers, and electronic devices. We record our services (both video and audio) so others can enjoy the message via the web site. THANK YOU for helping us provide a quality experience for all.

A NOTE TO PARENTS WITH SMALL CHILDREN

We suggest that children attend their age-appropriate classes during the main service. We view the service as a time for parents to be refreshed. If your child needs you, the number on your child's check-in tag will be displayed on the sanctuary monitors. **If you do have your child with you, please sit near a door so you may exit at the first sign of playfulness or fussiness.** This will be greatly appreciated by those seated around you. A video feed is located in the café and the nursing-mother's room, for your convenience.



Smoky Hill Vineyard

Real Life · Real Community · Real Mission



April 25, 2010

PROMOTION COMES FROM THE LORD
Take a Stand – Book of Esther Study

SHVchurch.org

FLOW OF SERVICE

- **MUSIC** Expressing our love to God. Feel free to stand or sit.
- **GIVING** Honoring God through our tithes and offerings.
- **TEACHING** Discovering 'Real Life' through God's Word.
- **ACTION** Responding to God.

20050 East Smoky Hill Road, Centennial CO 80015 | 303.690.2520

Office Hours Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm | **Service Times** Sundays 9:00 & 10:45 am

NEED TO KNOW...

FREE STUFF!

If you are visiting today, we invite you to pick up a free Vineyard worship CD at one of our Info Desks. Thank you for joining us!

MESSAGE CDs

Make sure to get CD's from recent messages in the bookstore. **\$3 each.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

BAPTISM

Baptism is an awesome way to publicly identify with Christ. It also enables you to follow the direction Jesus gave his disciples in following Him, and be empowered to live the way He's called us to live. If you have not been baptized since becoming a follower of Jesus, our next baptism is scheduled for May 16 (classes on May 2 & 9). Please sign-up on the bulletin insert or at an Info Desk. Questions? Call Cindy Redmond at 303.328.3472.

BLESS THE BIKES: CMA

SHV, together with Christian Motorcyclist Association, will hold a Bike Blessing followed by (weather permitting) a ride to Colorado Springs. When: Sunday, May 2 at 12:30; Where: SHV north parking lot; Why: To pray for God's protection on you, your rider, and your bike.

JARS OF CLAY

Smoky Hill Vineyard will be partnering with Extreme Productions for a Jars of Clay concert at SHV on May 10 at 7:00 pm. Ticket are \$15 General Admission and \$25 for Gold Circle. Tickets are on sale now in the Bookstore.

MILITARY OUTREACH

Join us TODAY from 12:30 to 2:00 pm as we assemble care packages for those serving in the military.

PODCAST/VIDEO OF TODAY'S MESSAGE

Download the podcast or video of today's message to your iPod or computer. Go to SHVchurch.org.

EAR PLUGS

If the volume of worship is beyond your comfort range, we have complimentary ear plugs available at the Info Desks.

PRAYER: FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

SHV will be a local host site for the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 6 at 7:00 pm. Join us for an evening of praying together for our nation and community.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Parents – registration to Vacation Bible School is available online! VBS will be held June 21-25 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm for ages three and up. The cost is \$20 per child, not to exceed \$50 per family with an early bird discount of \$5 per family if you register by April 30. VBS sign-up is also available in the west lobby on May 2. For more info, please contact Cecilia.McMurray@SHVchurch.org or call 303.328.3480.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Join the Thursday Morning Women's Group for Session Two of its study on Romans. We meet from 9:00 to 11:00 am in the Summit Room. Breakfast is included and there is free group-provided childcare. RSVP at 303.690.2520.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Join us for "Experiencing God's Love" on May 21-22 at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park. We will explore the many aspects of experiencing God's love. Sign-up at the table in the west lobby or visit SHVchurch.org for details and online registration.

MESSAGE NOTES

PROMOTION COMES FROM THE LORD

Take a Stand – Book of Esther Study

No one from the east or the west or from the desert can exalt a man. But it is God who judges: He brings one down, he exalts another. Psalm 75:6-7

Esther 2:1-10

▶ Promotion involves _____

▶ Navigating _____

2:11

▶ Remember God's _____

2:12-18

When the turn came for Esther (the girl Mordecai had adopted, the daughter of his uncle Abihail) to go to the king, she asked for nothing other than what Hegai, the king's eunuch who was in charge of the harem, suggested. And Esther won the favor of everyone who saw her. She was taken to King Xerxes in the royal residence in the tenth month, the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign. Now the king was attracted to Esther more than to any of the other women, and she won his favor and approval more than any of the other virgins. So he set a royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti. And the king gave a great banquet, Esther's banquet, for all his nobles and officials. He proclaimed a holiday throughout the provinces and distributed gifts with royal liberality.

▶ Promotion is all about _____ versus _____

▶ Being _____ prepares you for promotion

REFLECTION & RESPONSE