

## GROWTH GROUP QUESTIONS

ESTHER 9:1-19

### GROUP BUILDER

Share a victory God has given you and what you did to celebrate His work in your life?

### REFLECTION

What did God highlight or confirm to you about how to handle His blessings in this weekend's message?

### LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

What do you think about how the Jews responded to having the "upper hand"? Why did they not take plunder? Do you think I Samuel 15: 10, 15, 16 may have influenced their behavior?

What is revealed about the character of Esther in this chapter?

What are your thoughts regarding the actions that the Jews took in light of the words of Jesus to love our enemies?

Read the following verses and discuss our response to God's favor: Romans 12:8; Romans 12:17; James 2:13; 2 Corinthians. 5:18, 19; I Peter 5:5

### APPLICATION (in groups of 2-3)

What is your reaction when you have been treated badly?

In what area of your life are you asking God to overcome your enemy? What enemy do you need to strike down to become more Christ-like? Pride? Vengefulness? Arrogance? Doubt? \_\_\_\_\_?

Pray for one another, repenting for any sin and ask God for help to grow grace and wisdom when you are wronged. Ask for God's forgiveness. Determine to restore any relationships that have been damaged by your wrong attitude. Thank God for His grace and mercy.

### 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.

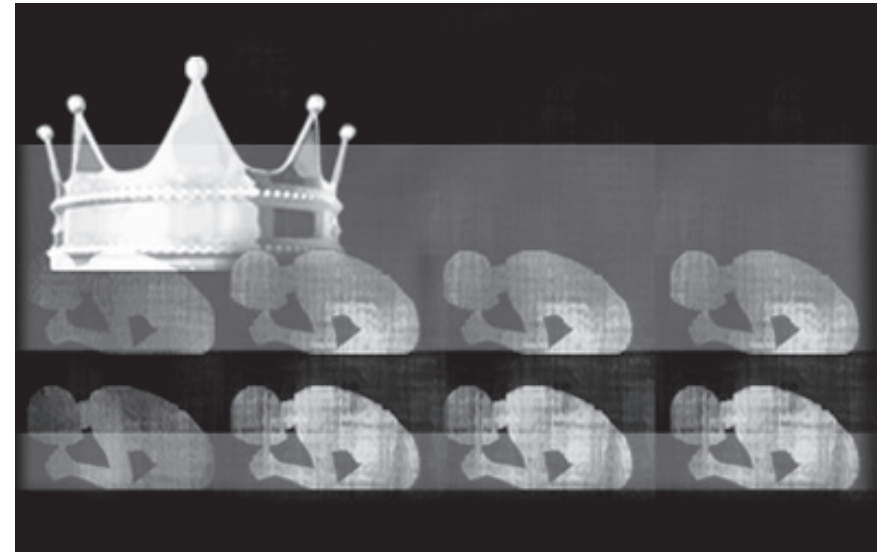
### A NOTE TO PARENTS WITH SMALL CHILDREN

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



June 13, 2010

GOING TOO FAR  
*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

### BURRITOS!

Hungry? Our Single Parent Ministry is selling Breakfast Burritos today in the Café. All proceeds will benefit the Single Parent Ministry!

### A NEW WAY TO GIVE AT SHV

If you want to give, but don't carry cash or a checkbook, visit the Giving Kiosk in the Café to securely give and/or register for events with a debit or credit card.

### JOIN THE SHV TEAM

- **Children's Ministry Co-Director**  
Wanna be part of building an amazing Children's Ministry?! This part-time position requires someone with strong leadership and team-building skills. Send your resume to Phyllis.Catrell@SHVChurch.org.
- **Administrative Assistant – 28 hrs/week.** The successful candidate will have very strong administrative, organizational systems and event-planning experience. Send your resume to Phyllis.Catrell@SHVChurch.org.

### LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO CONNECT?

Growth Groups offer an opportunity to develop long-term encouraging relationships, study the Bible and simply have fun together. If you need help finding a group please stop by an Info Desk, visit the Discover Community Board in the Café, or log onto [SHVchurch.org](http://SHVchurch.org).

### PODCAST/VIDEO OF TODAY'S MESSAGE

Download the podcast or video of today's message to your iPod or computer. Go to [SHVchurch.org](http://SHVchurch.org).

### EAR PLUGS

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

### SHV STUDENTS: NEW NIGHT!

SHV Students has moved from Wednesday to Sunday nights! Doors open at 7:00 pm and activities go from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm. High School meets in the Café, while 7th/8th grades meet in the Youth Room. See you there!

### SHVSTUDENTS.COM

Check out the new [SHVstudents.com](http://SHVstudents.com) for cool ways to connect with your friends and leaders from SHV. Plus, you'll find funny videos, the verse of the day, and blog posts from your favorite youth pastor, Joe.

### SINGLE PARENT SUPPORT DAY

Last year, we served 119 Single Parents, blessing them with services such as oil changes, car washes, medical check-ups, hair cuts, massages, manicures, and more. This year's event is Saturday, June 26, from 9:00 to 1:00 pm. If you would like to be a part, contact Roberta at [rkmacallister@gmail.com](mailto:rkmacallister@gmail.com).

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Registration to Vacation Bible School is available at [SHVchurch.org](http://SHVchurch.org)! VBS is June 21-25 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm for ages three to 5th Grade. The cost is \$20 per child, not to exceed \$50 per family. For more info, please contact Cecilia. [McMurray@SHVchurch.org](mailto:McMurray@SHVchurch.org) or call 303.328.3480.

## MESSAGE NOTES

### GOING TOO FAR

*Take a Stand – Book of Esther Series*

### REVIEW

*Esther 9:1-10*

*On the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar, the edict commanded by the king was to be carried out. On this day the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, but now the tables were turned and the Jews got the upper hand over those who hated them. The Jews assembled in their cities in all the provinces of King Xerxes to attack those seeking their destruction. No one could stand against them, because the people of all the other nationalities were afraid of them. And all the nobles of the provinces, the satraps, the governors and the king's administrators helped the Jews, because fear of Mordecai had seized them. Mordecai was prominent in the palace; his reputation spread throughout the provinces, and he became more and more powerful.*

*The Jews struck down all their enemies with the sword, killing and destroying them, and they did what they pleased to those who hated them.*

*Verse 16 They killed seventy-five thousand of them but did not lay their hands on the plunder.*

Why were 75k killed?

- The decree was still in effect that all Jews were to be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ had grown
- The Jews killed those \_\_\_\_\_

*9:11-19*

*Verse 13 "If it pleases the king," Esther answered, "give the Jews in Susa permission to carry out this day's edict tomorrow also, and let Haman's ten sons be hanged on gallows."*

- Esther seems to turn \_\_\_\_\_
- Favor creates \_\_\_\_\_ and character \_\_\_\_\_ surfaces

### BIG QUESTIONS

### APPLICATION & RESPONSE

How would you answer the big questions?