

Discussion Questions for Small Group



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Instructions: Listen to the Shabbat audio reading together as a small group. Have your bibles with you and read along. After listening, go through the discussion questions below.

Date: 8.19.23 and 8.20.23

Scripture Reading: Shoftim: Deut 21:1-9, Esther 4:1-7:10, 1 Cor 12:1-26, Psalm 36: 1-12, Prov 21:21-22 AND

Ki Tetze: Deut 21:10-23, Esther 8:1-10:3, 1 Cor 12:27-13:13, Psalm 31:1-11, Prov 21:23-24

1. Read Esther 5:9-10. Haman had a deep hatred for Mordechai the Jew. Read these other two scriptures to understand where this deep hatred comes from: Genesis 36:12 and Exodus 17: 14-16. Why did Haman hate the Jews?

2. Though the name of God is never mentioned in the entire book of Esther, we can see His invisible Hand moving and orchestrating events to save the Jews.

Read Esther 4:13-14. What is Mordechai revealing to Esther about how the hand of the LORD is moving?

3. Read Esther 6:1-2. How do you see the hand of God moving in this scripture passage?

4. Think about Haman and how he wanted to completely eradicate all the Jews. Can you think of another evil leader in world history who wanted to completely eradicate all Jews? How is Haman similar to this other leader?

5. Look at this news article from the Nuremberg trials:

Ten Nazi war criminals executed by hanging, one committed suicide after the Nuremberg trials in 1946

<https://www.nydailynews.com/news/world/nazi-war-criminals-executed-nuremberg-trials-1946-article-1.2831066>



Originally published by the Daily News on Oct. 16, 1946.

Nurnberg, Oct. 16 - Former Reichmarshal Hermann Wilhelm Goering cheated the gallows of Allied justice by committing suicide in his prison cell shortly before the 10 other condemned Nazi leaders were hanged in the courtyard of Nurnberg jail early today.

Now read Esther 9: 13-14. What similarities do you see between these two events? Why do you think they could be connected?

6. Read Esther 9:25-26. Why do you think there is still such a prevalence of Jew hatred and anti-semitism even today?

7. Read Matthew 23:37-39. What is Yeshua's heart towards his own family, the Jewish people? What does He say will happen at the end of days?

8. Read 1 Corinthians 12:8-9. What are the spiritual gifts spoken of in these two verses? How have you seen those gifts manifested? (in yourself or others?)

9. Read 1 Corinthians 12:10-11. What are the spiritual gifts spoken of in these two verses? How have you seen those gifts manifested (in yourself or others?)

10. Read 1 Corinthians 12:7. What is the purpose of the spiritual gifts?

11. Read 1 Corinthians 12: 31 and 1 Corinthians 13:1-3. Paul is putting the spiritual gifts in their proper place. What is the most excellent way? What is the most important thing?

12. Read 1 Cor 13:4. Meditate on this verse. Think of a time in your life when you experienced this kind of love. Share that with your group.

13. Read 1 Cor 13:5. Meditate on this verse. Think of a time in your life when you experienced this kind of love. Share that with your group.

14. Read 1 Cor 13:6-7. Meditate on these verses. Think of a time in your life when you experienced this kind of love. Share that with your group.

15. Read 1 Cor 13:13. How does reading this passage bring into focus for you the right priority and focus in your life? Is there anything you will change or do to apply this passage in your life?