

1. One of the points we touched on Sunday was dealing with the consequences of choices (our own / others). How have you experienced painful consequences like this? How have you seen God work in the process? How did you come out on the other side? How can we be faithful even in these times?

2. Read **Esther 2:1-18**.

What are some difficult aspects you see in these verses? How have you read into these verses before (possibly adding to the story instead of taking it at face value)?

Why is making a decision in haste or anger not wise? How do we guard our lives from that being a common occurrence?

You see the King's remorsefulness, but a lack of repentance. What's the difference between remorse and repentance? Why are both needed in our lives?

While we don't know Esther and Mordecai's motivations (although we know they didn't resist). Maybe their lives were threatened and they chose to compromise with the world. Why do we tend to compromise facing far less threats?

In what ways are you trying to hold on to your Biblical convictions but feel tempted to compromise? How can you faithfully navigate these times?

3. God's people are being disciplined in exile in a pagan land. Have you experienced seasons of God's discipline? How have you experienced God's sustaining strength even in discipline? How do you respond to the idea that God loves you enough to discipline you and not discard you?

DIGGING DEEPER STUDY

## Comparison of the Kings

This "Digging Deeper Study" is here for those of you who want to invest more, discover more, learn more and grow in your faith!

Last time you compared the King with Jesus - let's do some more! How does the king exercise his authority for his own gratification vs. Jesus doing it for our good (ref. Romans 4:25; John 10:10-11; John 17:24,26). The king sought a pure, beautiful bride, but Jesus has made us into one (ref. Ephesians 5:25-27; Revelation 19:7-9). The king left women used and in shame, Jesus takes our shame away (ref. Isaiah 53:5; Romans 10:11; Hebrews 12:2).



CURRENT SERIES



# ESTHER

The Visible Workings of an Invisible God

### NEW TO NORTHAMPTON

We're glad you're here! Take a moment to fill-out a Connection Card and let us know more about you! If you have children or teens, we have great, safe options for Children's & Student Ministry! Complete info can be found at: [www.NBchurchCF.org](http://www.NBchurchCF.org)!

### MESSAGE SERIES

TODAY'S MESSAGE:  
**ESTHER**

*Sin, Suffering and the Sovereignty of God*

NEXT WEEK:  
**ESTHER**  
2:19-3:15

### WORSHIP ORDER

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

GOD IS ABLE

#### WELCOME

GOD YOU REIGN

#### OFFERING / SCRIPTURE

RECKLESS LOVE

#### MESSAGE

GOODNESS OF GOD

#### SEND-OFF & PRAYER

### CLASSES & LIFE GROUPS

Sunday 9:30am

**Berean Class**  
Room 203

**Truth & Testimony**  
Room 202

**Alternative Adult Elective**  
Overflow Room

Thursday 7:00pm

**Men's Bible Study**

Various Times & Days

**LIFE Groups**  
**Real-Life Discipleship**

**More info: [nbchurchcf.org](http://nbchurchcf.org)**

### NEXT STEPS

**Baptism 101 Class**  
Sunday, August 29 - 9:00am

**Starting Point Lunch**  
Sunday, August 29 - 12:30pm

### GET CONNECTED

333 W. Steels Corners Rd. | Cuyahoga Falls, Oh

@nbchurchcf

## **WELCOME TO NORTHAMPTON!**

We're glad you've decided to join us online or in-person! We want you to know that you are welcome here! Please take the time to fill out our online Connection Card and download the Church Center App to stay connected! Thanks for joining in!

## **DRIVE-THRU DONUTS & COFFEE - Wednesday, August 25 [6:30-8:00AM]**

If you're interested in helping, please plan to be at the church by 6:00am and dress for the weather. Interested in being part of the team? Sign up in the Church Center App!

## **BAPTISM 101 - Sunday, August 29 [9:00-10:15AM]**

Interested in learning more about Baptism? Ready to be Baptized? Not sure? This is the class for you! Sign up in the app and plan to join us on August 29 in the Cafe space.

## **STARTING POINT LUNCH - Sunday, August 29 [12:30-2:00PM]**

This is for all new to Northampton attendees who would like to learn more about who we are, what we do and why we do it! Please sign-up today in the app!

## **REAL-LIFE DISCIPLESHIP LIFE GROUP EXPERIENCE**

There are still spots available for this 11-week training LIFE group. It's a great time to connect with a short-term LIFE group and learn a lot about yourself and discipleship as a Christ follower. There are a few spots available, sign-up today! RLD kicks off Wednesday nights starting September 01 at 6:00pm. **If you have registered**, please pick up your workbook from Pastor Joe and come to the first meeting having completed the first week's work!

## **SERVING OPPORTUNITIES**

All of these can be found in the Church Center App under "Events." There are serving needs and great opportunities for you to connect and make a difference!

**CAFE HELP | CHILDREN'S MINISTRY | FIRST IMPRESSIONS | MEDIA & TECH**

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

On Sunday, September 12 for "Sunday Funday!" We'll be celebrating Baptisms, membership and after the service, we'll have an ice cream truck, balloon bender and more! Invite a friend and join us!

God is able to take the **mess** of our lives and turn it into a **masterpiece** for His glory.

## **Choices have consequences**

Every \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ is  
under God's sovereign care.

## **Some Points of Clarification...**

## **Four Years Later** *Esther 2:1-18*

Though God \_\_\_\_\_ us, He doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ us.

Are you trusting God to take your mess and turn it into a masterpiece? What/who do you need to release to Him in order to find peace?