STUDY GUIDE

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[setting it up]

How would you explain God's Sovereignty to a friend?

Share one story from your life when you really saw God's Sovereignty play out.

[digging deeper]

As you read through the book of Esther, it is so much more than a fascinating story. It is a story that highlights God's Sovereignty. His name is not mentioned but His hand is clearly seen. For a good little read to help frame Esther in, read this post: https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/esther-the-silent-sovereignty-of-god/

Read Esther chapters three and four.

Summarize what is happening at this moment in a brief sentence.

When you continue in Esther you see God deliver His people from the threat of Haman and his plan. God uses Esther to bring about rescue for His people.

List three ways you are seeing God's sovereignty playing out in these verses:

1.		
2.		
3.		

Explain how this statement is accurate: "Esther is not the hero of this story, God is."

Esther is hesitant at first to respond to the situation...we see the temptation for her to be passive. It would be very easy for us to take God's Sovereignty—the fact that nothing happens in the universe that is outside of God's awareness, authority, control, or plan—as an opportunity to be passive. How is the story of Esther a reminder that God uses His people and their proactive courage, action, and obedience to accomplish His will?

To strengthen the reality of God's Sovereignty, read each of these verses. Afterward, pick your favorite and challenge yourself to memorize it.

Ephesians 1:11	Romans 8:28	Colossians 1:16-17
Proverbs 16:33	Job 42:2	Isaiah 46:9-10
Daniel 4:35	Proverbs 16:4	Isaiah 14:24

The best thing about the book of Ester is that it points us to Jesus. How do you see that to be true?

[living it out]

What is one area of your life, or burden that you carry, where you need to refresh your trust in God and His Sovereignty today?

What evidence will you see (and even others will see) that will demonstrate that you are trusting God?

Close in prayer by praising God for His Sovereignty, thanking Him for all the ways you have seen His Sovereignty in your life. Confess where you have failed in trusting in His Sovereignty. Ask for His help as you trust in Him and His Sovereignty in the days, weeks, months and years to come.