October 24/27, 2024 Esther 6:14-7:10

Connect: Share a meal. Play a game. Ask an icebreaker question. Follow up on the past week's events or prayer requests.

Grow

- 1. Serve Fresno reflection: Last week we practiced serving faithfully by participating in Serve Fresno. Whether you went to a site and served, learned about different parts of our city, or prayed over the city, what was your experience like? How did you see God working in your time? What may he be stirring in you to consider after your serve experience?
- 2. How was your time with the Lord this week? What stood out in your time in Word? How did you approach God in prayer this week?

Share

- 3. Read Esther 6:14-7:10. Have someone recap the sermon in 1-2 minutes. What was most meaningful or significant from last week's sermon?
- 4. The sermon mentioned regarding this passage that this is "A beautiful moment of someone stepping up and putting themselves at risk for the sake of others." Share about a time/circumstance when you or someone you know stepped up for the good of others, even if it risked reputation, relationship, or even physical safety.
- 5. Keeping the truth from coming to the surface is as laborious as trying to keep an inflated ball submerged under water. Have you ever tried to keep the truth in a situation from surfacing? How tired and/or stressed did this make you? When the truth did come out, how did this change your life?
- 6. Did you notice that the gallows Haman had constructed for Mordacai were located at Haman's residence? Haman's unchecked hatred had blossomed to move Haman to not only commit murder but also construct the murder weapon. How does the wisdom of Jesus' teaching in Matthew 5:21-23 keep us from becoming murderous in our heart towards others?

Practice

As a group, create space for someone wrestling through God's goodness (or perceived delay/absence) in their life to process what they're walking through. Respond with listening and prayer.

7. Has there been (or is there currently) an experience in which you are suffering or walking through a difficult time and wondered if God was good or going to do something about it? How did God show (or is God showing) Himself to be faithful and trustworthy in that circumstance?