

# Sermon Resources

Sermon: *The Parody of Power*

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## WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

Esther 1

**(SERMON IN A SENTENCE)** The greatest power on earth is a parody of God's strength.

NO MATTER WHO SITS IN THE WHITE HOUSE, JESUS STILL SITS ON THE THRONE

WE CANNOT SUCCEED OUR WAY INTO SELF-SUFFICIENCY

OUR STORY YIELDS TO HIS SOVEREIGNTY

### MEMORY VERSE

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. - Colossians 1:16 NIV

## WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK?

(Icebreaker) If you could choose any superpower, what would it be and why?

Read Esther 1:1-4. King Xerxes throws an extravagant feast to display his wealth and power. How do you see similar displays of power in today's world?

In what specific areas of your life are you tempted to trust in your own power rather than God's? How can you shift to trust in God in these areas?

Read Esther 1:10-12. Queen Vashti's refusal to appear before King Xerxes disrupts his plans, showing the fragility of human control. What does this tell us about the illusion of control in our lives? How have you seen this play out in your own life?

Practically, what does it look like for us to recognize God's sovereignty in situations where we feel powerless? How do you think your life would change if you did this?

God's name is never mentioned in Esther, but there is a thread of his faithfulness throughout the story. Where else do you see hints of God in the part of the story we discussed this week (Esther 1)?