

## Esther - June 25, 2023

*In the scriptures we are encouraged to “make the most of every opportunity”, and that requires the willingness to seize God-created moments. In this message we are considering Esther’s story to learn how to steward our “for such a time as this” moments, for wise people know that “it’s about time.”*

**It’s About Time**

1. Rick began by saying, “*I admire people who can recognize opportune moments that may never come again, and who have the courage to do something about it.*” Share some examples of people you know who do this well. Follow up: **Read Ephesians 5:15-16.** Why do you think the first sign of wisdom that Paul gave was the careful use of time?
2. **FOR SUCH A TIME. Read Esther 4:7-16.** What are some of the key things that jump out to you from this part of the story? How does verse 14 apply to you today? Follow up: What is God calling you to do that might involve some risks or make you uncomfortable?
3. Esther’s story warns us: ***don’t miss the time of your life.*** *It takes great wisdom to recognize and resist the seduction of the default mission.* What are some of the default missions we often drift towards? How do you keep God’s mission central in your life so that you don’t miss the connection between your opportunity & God’s purpose for your life?
4. **THE TESTS OF TIME: At no time has God lost control.** *God never has a hard time being God.* What does it teach us about God that He’s committed to His purposes with or without us? Follow up: How might knowing God is in control strengthen your faith & bless your life?
5. **THE TESTS OF TIME: In this time we need to seize opportunities to partner with God.** Name a time when you seized a God-created moment. Can you think of a time where you had an unexpected moment to do something for God and you didn’t seize it? What kept you from doing so?
6. **THE TESTS OF TIME: From time to time we must help each other stay on mission.** Do you have a Mordecai in your life that can speak truth to you when your life starts to drift? Who is it, and why do you think it is hard to have those kind of relationships?
7. Rick closed by reminding us that “*We are all called for such a time as this.*” **Read Acts 13:36.** Why do you think God has placed you where you are, with your specific background and influence? How does that impact God’s purpose for your life on a daily basis?

