

## **TAKING IT HOME**

Trials and crisis can be especially difficult when we try to face them alone. Who are some of the people in your life you can depend on to hear you and pray with you during a difficult time?

Is there anything you are going through right now that your growth group could be praying for and helping you with? If you are willing to share, have your growth group pray for you at this time. Consider ways in which your growth group can continually play a role in your life particularly as you work through this crisis.

## **Why We Hope In Crisis**

“Why We Hope: a series on Esther” – 2 of 5

Esther 3-4

May 19, 2013

Amy Mark

### **WHAT is Crisis?**

### **WHY We Hope In Crisis**

1. Because we know \_\_\_\_\_
2. Because we know \_\_\_\_\_
3. Because we know \_\_\_\_\_

### **HOW Our Hope Serves Us in Crisis**

1. By freeing us to \_\_\_\_\_
2. By freeing us to \_\_\_\_\_
3. By freeing us to \_\_\_\_\_

## Growth Group Homework

For the Week of May 19, 2013

### MY STORY

In last week's sermon we looked at the part of Esther where Mordecai is in a position of needing to ask for Esther's help and where Esther is in a position to be the helper. Share a time when you were in a crisis where you either had to ask for help or where you were the helper.

What one thing from last week's sermon would you like to see discussed in your growth group this week?

### DIGGING DEEPER

A crisis is defined as follows in the Webster's Dictionary: "an unstable or crucial time or state of affairs in which a decisive change is impending; especially one with the distinct possibility of a highly undesirable outcome."

1. In the chapters of Esther we covered on Sunday, what would you say is both the short term crisis in the story and the potential long term crisis beyond the story (by long term it is meant from the time of Esther until now)? *Clue: this long term crisis would directly affect you and what you're doing at this very moment.*

2. Recognized by many as the key or central verse in the book of Esther, how would you categorize chapter 4 verse 14 (particularly the last sentence of that verse)? A) Serendipity? B) Coincidence? C) Human achievement or initiative? D) Divine Providence? E) Other? What do you make of this verse and how might you apply it to a current crisis you are facing or may face in the future?

3. In Romans 5:12-21 Paul lays out the universal spiritual predicament that everyone in the entire world finds themselves in. Using your own words, describe this crisis. Similarly, describe the remedy to this crisis. How does this bring you hope as you face your own personal crisis (try backing up and reading Romans 5:1-5 for more insight and personal application)?

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