

God Remembers You

New sermon series on Esther begins this Sunday

I am excited to begin an Old Testament book about a young lady who happens to be the “star” of the story. We will learn about a Jewish girl named Hadassah, who was taken from her guardian Mordecai and forced to compete for the affection of the king. This unlikely contestant for a beauty pageant was crowned queen of Persia and renamed Esther, meaning “star.” The story of Esther reads more like a movie plot, with a beautiful queen risking her life to prevent genocide.



This 7-week series through the book of Esther emphasizes God’s sovereignty, love, and protection -- even though we don’t always see it. God remembers you!

Esther is the only book in the Bible not to mention the name of God. But that is not to say that God was absent. His presence permeates much of the story, as though He were behind the scenes coordinating “coincidences” and circumstances to make His will happen. The sovereignty and faithfulness of God permeate each scene. **Nothing is truly coincidental**, we learn through the book of Esther. God’s sovereignty is best summarized in Mordecai’s exhortation to Esther:

**“And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?”
(Esther 4:14)**

The book of Esther may not have God’s name stated directly, but His involvement is felt in many ways throughout the story, especially when Esther implored the people to seek help through fasting (4:15-16). We know that fasting was done to draw closer to God and was accompanied by heartfelt prayers (Daniel 9:3, Acts 14:23). Esther is clearly a story of God’s intervention and deliverance.

Esther is also an inspiring story about a remarkable woman who was willing to risk her life to save her people. She was a woman of who was willing to put the lives of others ahead of even her own life. She was an example of serving others even under the most stressful circumstances. Jesus Christ said:

**“Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends”
(John 15:13)**

Most of the time, our lives may be pretty routine, but all of us have a few defining moments when we may be called on to put Godly principles above personal benefit. What will you do when you encounter those defining moments in your life? **What will you do when you face “such a time as this?”** Will you choose to do the right thing as opposed to what might give you some personal benefit?

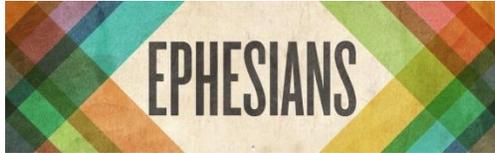
Life can be hard. Difficult times happen, and pain cannot be avoided. When life doesn’t make sense, do you turn to God or away from Him? Let the book of Esther encourage you that God is always present. Trust and obey, as Esther did. And watch God silently weave all events for His glory and for our good. God remembers you!

Join us on **Sunday, April 15**, at 10:30 am in the Worship Center, as we begin this new sermon series -- letting Esther show all of us the way so we can be inspired by her example.



Pastor Kevin Whitmore
[Clay Center Christian Church](#)

Upcoming Events



Join in our new Ephesians Bible Class elective at 9:30 am this **Sunday, April 15** -- contact Lyle VonSpreckelsen at 402-984-1218



Guest speaker Luke Kliever of [Miriam's Hope](#), our April Mission of the Month, will provide the sermon at 10:30 am on **Sunday, April 29** -- contact the church office at 402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org



Join us at 10:30 am this **Sunday, April 15**, for our Worship Service as Pastor Kevin Whitmore kicks off our new sermon series, "Esther: God Remembers You" -- listen to past sermons [here](#)



Help us honor our high school graduates at 10:30 am on **Sunday, May 6** -- contact the church office at 402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org



Join us for a Volunteer Appreciation Lunch following the worship service on **Sunday, May 6** -- contact the church office at 402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org



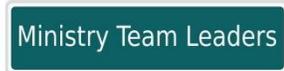
Celebrate Mother's Day with us and enjoy brunch at 9 am on **Sunday, May 13** -- contact the church office at 402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org



Help us minister to the Harvard Rest Haven at 3 pm this **Sunday, April 15** -- contact Kevin Whitmore at 719-568-0154



The C4 Youth Group meets at 6:30 pm this **Sunday, April 15** -- contact Steven VonSpreckelsen at 402-469-1707 or svon2002@gmail.com



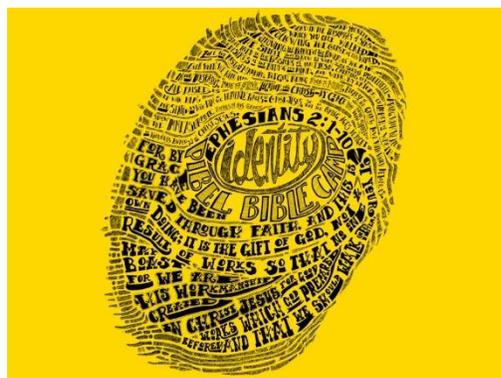
The next Ministry Team Leader Meeting is **Sunday, April 22** -- contact the church office at 402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org



Come support the babies being dedicated to the Lord at 10:30 am on

Sunday, May 13

-- contact the church office at 402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org



Online registration is open for this year's

Pibel Bible Camp:

***June 1-2:** Grades 1-2

***June 3-7:** Grades 5-6

***June 10-15:** Grades 9-12

***June 17-20:** Grades 3-4

***June 24-29:** Grades 7-8

Early bird registration is due **Monday,**

May 14 -- contact the church office at

402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org

Mission of the Month:



Located in Hastings, Miriam's Hope rebuilds families at risk of losing their children to foster care through a Christ-centered residential program

Read the latest updates from all the missions we support

A graphic titled "3 Ways to Give" with a dark background and light text. It lists three methods: "In Person" (put your offering in the plates on Sunday morning), "Online" (give on a computer at www.cccchristian.org/give), and "On our App" (search 'ccchristian', download and give). Below the list, it says "Giving online is easy -- thank you for helping people to know and love Jesus!"

3 Ways to Give

- In Person:** put your offering in the plates on Sunday morning
- Online:** give on a computer at www.cccchristian.org/give
- On our App:** search 'ccchristian', download and give

Giving **online** is easy -- thank you for helping people to know and love Jesus!



Mark your calendar for our all-day VBS
at Manna Camp: **July 23-26** -- contact
the church office at 402-762-3824 or
office@ccchristian.org
