

Daily Devotions

Day 1: You Are Chosen for a Purpose

Reading: *Esther 4:1-14; Romans 8:28*

Mordecai's powerful words to Esther remind us that our positions in life are not accidents—they are appointments. God has strategically placed you exactly where you are, with the relationships, opportunities, and influence you possess, for His divine purposes. Your circumstances, even the difficult ones, may be the very platform from which God wants to work through you. The job you dislike, the neighborhood you live in, the family you were born into—these are not random. Like Esther, you have been positioned "for such a time as this." Today, ask God to open your eyes to see your life through the lens of His providence. What opportunity for kingdom impact surrounds you right now?

Day 2: Your Silence Does Not Stop God's Work

Reading: *Esther 4:14; Genesis 50:20*

Mordecai's faith declaration reveals a profound truth: God's purposes will be accomplished with or without our participation. This should both comfort and challenge us. It comforts because God's kingdom does not depend on our perfection or even our willingness. It challenges because we might miss the privilege of being part of His redemptive work. Like Joseph, who recognized that what others meant for harm, God intended for good, we must trust that God is always working. Your apathy, busyness, or past disappointments with church may keep you on the sidelines, but God's mission continues. The question is not whether God will work—He will. The question is whether you will experience the joy of joining Him in that work. Do not let silence become your legacy.

Day 3: Divine Conviction Over Human Compromise

Reading: *Esther 4:15-17; Daniel 3:16-18*

Esther's response—"If I must die, I must die"—echoes the faith of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego who chose the fiery furnace over compromise. This is the heart of radical faith: choosing to die for conviction rather than live with compromise. In our comfort-seeking culture, such commitment seems extreme. Yet this is precisely what transforms ordinary people into world-changers. What convictions are you willing to risk everything for? Esther understood that some moments demand courage that transcends self-preservation. Before she acted, she called for fasting and prayer—recognizing that human courage alone is insufficient. We need divine strength for divine assignments. Today, identify one area where you have compromised truth for comfort. Ask God for the courage to stand, regardless of the cost, trusting that obedience to Him is always worth the risk.

Day 4: You Could Be the Catalyst

Reading: *2 Timothy 1:3-7; Acts 9:10-19*

Edward Kimball was simply a Sunday school teacher who invested in one teenager named Dwight Moody. That single act of faithfulness sparked a chain reaction that eventually influenced Billy Graham and millions beyond. You may never know the full impact of your obedience. Ananias was called to minister to a persecutor named Saul, who became Paul the apostle. One act of courage. Generational impact. You do not need to start a movement—you simply need to be faithful in your moment. Speak the encouraging word. Share your testimony. Invest in that one person God has placed in your path. The grandmother who prays, the friend who invites, the teacher who believes—these are the catalysts of spiritual awakening. Stop waiting for a grand platform. Your sphere of influence, however small it seems, is exactly what God wants to use. Who is in your life today that needs your faithful investment?

Day 5: Invest Your Life, Don't Just Spend It

Reading: *Matthew 16:24-26; Philippians 1:21*

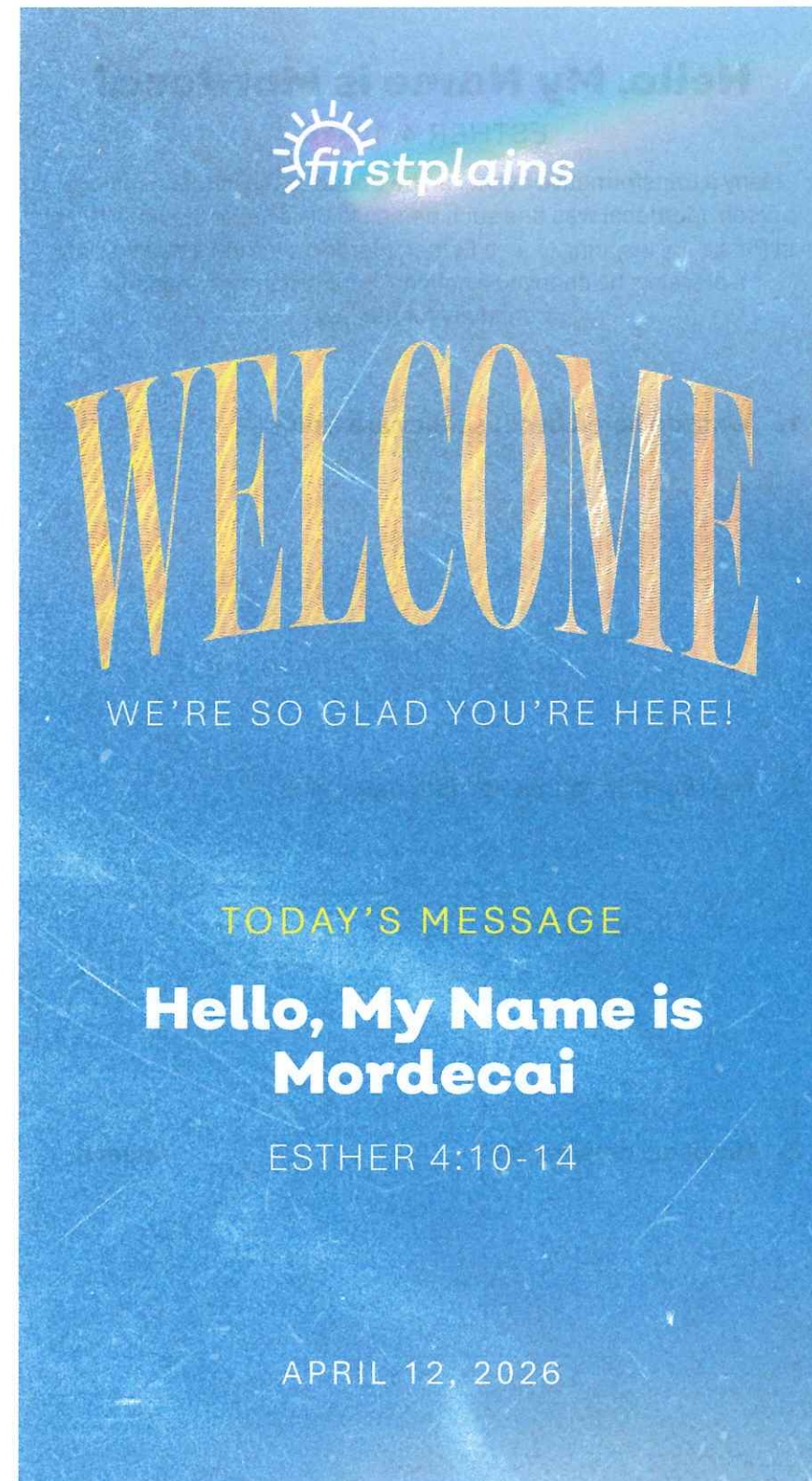
Death is certain for all of us. The only question is what we will do with the time between now and then. Will we spend our lives on temporary comforts and fleeting pleasures, or invest them in eternal purposes? Esther faced this choice literally—risk death for purpose or preserve her life through silence. We face it daily in less dramatic but equally significant ways. Every day you choose between self-preservation and kingdom advancement, between comfort and conviction, between spending and investing. Paul declared, "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." This is the perspective that liberates us from fear and ignites us for impact. Stop spending your life on what will not matter in eternity. Start investing it in what will. Your gifts, resources, time, and influence are deposits from God meant to generate kingdom returns. What will you invest today that will outlast your life?

Deacons on Call

Josh Bell and David Downs

Weekly Events

- **Worship:** Sundays at 9:45 AM
- **Small Groups:** Sundays at 11 AM
- **Deep Dive:** Wednesdays at Noon and 6:45 PM
- **First Kids:** Wednesdays at 5:30
- **First Youth:** Wednesdays: MS 5:30 PM; HS 6:45 PM



Hello, My Name is Mordecai

ESTHER 4:10-14

Many a transformative event can be traced to the influence of one person. Mordecai was one such person in the lives of the Jews living in Persia. By inspiring Queen Esther, Mordecai turned a blasting into a blessing; he changed a national catastrophe into national continuity for the Jews.

1. Jews are hated because they are God's _____.

2. The reaction to this horrible news was _____.

3. Mordecai delivers his _____ speech.

a. Your position will not guarantee your _____.

b. Your silence will not prevent our _____.

c. Your position is _____.

4. Esther exhibits extraordinary faith as a result of Mordecai's _____.

Scripture References (In order of use): Genesis 3:15; Nehemiah 2:1-2; Romans 8:28; Genesis 50:20
Reference Works: The Books of History (James Smith); Notes on the Book of Esther (H. A. Ironside); Be Committed (Warren Wiersbe); Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther (Max Anders)

Discussion Questions

1. What's a moment in your life when someone's words significantly changed your direction or gave you courage to do something difficult?
2. Read **Esther 4:10-14**. Is there anything from the sermon you would like to discuss?
3. Why has there been so much hatred toward the Jews?
4. **Position Doesn't Equal Protection:** Mordecai told Esther that being queen wouldn't save her. When have you relied on your position, status, or comfort zone instead of stepping out in faith? What happened?
5. **God Works With Us or Without Us:** Mordecai said deliverance would come from "some other place" if Esther stayed silent. How does this challenge our view of our own importance? Is this encouraging or convicting to you? Why?
6. **Divine Providence:** Mordecai said, "Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?" What difficult circumstances might actually be God's positioning for a purpose? Share a time when you later recognized God's providence in placing you somewhere specific.
7. Who are the "Edward Kimballs" in your spiritual journey—the seemingly ordinary people who made extraordinary impacts? Who might you be an Edward Kimball to right now?
8. **Die for Conviction or Live with Compromise:** Esther said, "If I must die, I must die." What convictions are you currently compromising on because taking a stand feels too costly? What would it look like to step out in faith?

Practical Applications

- Reflect: Journal about where God has currently positioned you and what "such a time as this" might mean for your current season. Identify one area where you've been silent or passive when God might be calling you to act.
- Reach Out: Contact someone in your spiritual lineage and thank them for their investment in your life. Have a conversation with someone in your sphere of influence who needs encouragement or to hear about Jesus.