

What do you think
is the most dangerous thing
in your home?



Pastor John Ortberg believes that the most dangerous object in your home is the easy chair.

The bottom of the slide features a decorative graphic consisting of several overlapping geometric shapes. On the left, there is a dark olive green triangle pointing towards the bottom-left corner. To its right is a larger, light blue triangle pointing towards the bottom-left corner, overlapping the green one. The rest of the bottom section is filled with a solid, medium-light blue color.



“Bringing Your A-Game” #4

Bible Reading:
Esther 2-4 NLT₁₉₉₆ (edited)
Sermon: Gary Olsen,
Lead Pastor, Dr. Ministry

ESTHER 2-4 NLT1996 (EDITED)

[2:2] King Xerxes' attendants suggested,
“Let us search the empire to
find beautiful young virgins for the king.
[4] ... This advice was very appealing
to the king, so he put the plan
into effect immediately.



ESTHER 2-4 NLT1996 (EDITED)

[5] Now at the fortress of Susa there was a certain Jew named Mordecai ...

[6] His family had been exiled from Jerusalem to Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar, along with... many others.

ESTHER 2-4 NLT1996 (EDITED)

[7] This man had a beautiful and lovely young cousin, Hadassah, who was also called Esther.

When her father and mother had died, Mordecai adopted her into his family and raised her as his own daughter.

ESTHER 2-4 NLT₁₉₉₆ (EDITED)

[8] As a result of the king's decree, Esther, along with many other young women, was brought to the king's harem at the fortress of Susa.....

[10] Esther had not told anyone of her nationality and family background, for Mordecai had told her not to.

ESTHER 2-4 NLT₁₉₉₆ (EDITED)

[16] When Esther was taken to King Xerxes at the royal palace in early winter of the seventh year of his reign,

[17] the king loved her more than any of the other young women.

He was so delighted with her that he set the royal crown on her head and declared her queen.

ESTHER 2-4 NLT₁₉₉₆ (EDITED)

[3:7]nearly a year later

[3:8]Haman, the prime minister, approached King Xerxes and said, “There is a certain race of people scattered through all the provinces of your empire. Their laws are different from those of any other nation, and they refuse to obey even the laws of the king ...

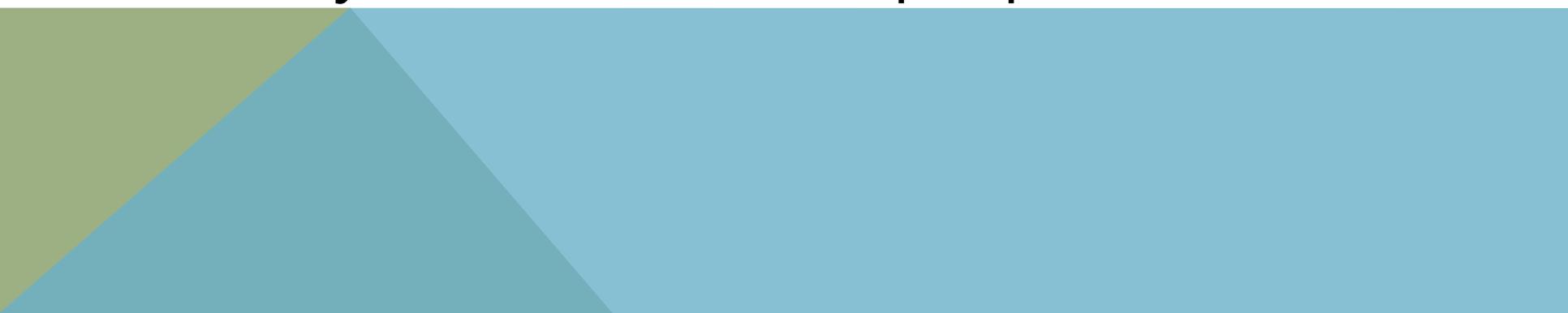
ESTHER 2-4 NLT₁₉₉₆ (EDITED)

[9] If it please Your Majesty, issue a decree that they be destroyed, and I will give 375 tons of silver to the government administrators so they can put it into the royal treasury.”

ESTHER 2-4 NLT₁₉₉₆ (EDITED)

[10] The king agreed,
confirming his decision by
removing his signet ring from
his finger and giving it to Haman...
– the enemy of the Jews.

[11] “Keep the money,”
the king told Haman, “but go ahead and
do as you like with these people.”



ESTHER 2-4 NLT₁₉₉₆ (EDITED)

[4:1] When Mordecai learned what had been done ...

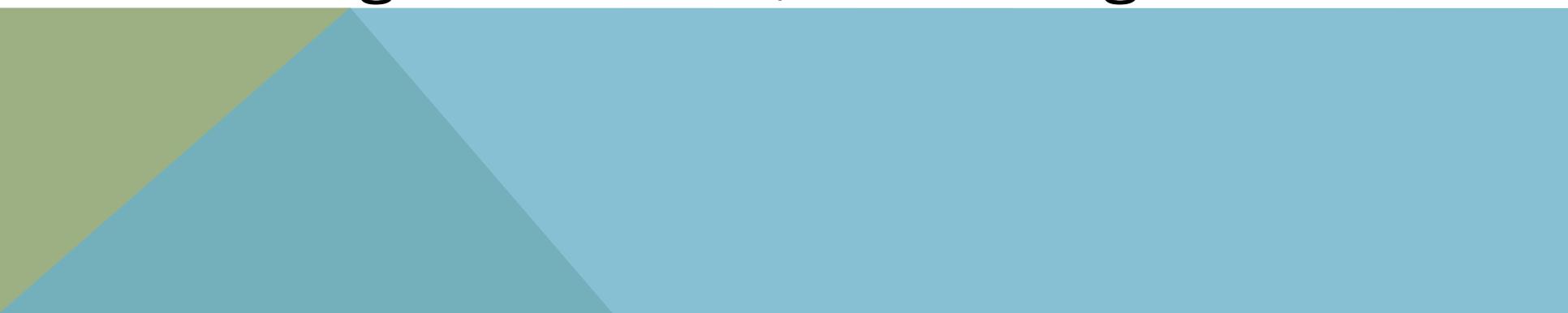
[13] Mordecai sent back this reply to Esther: “Don't think for a moment that you will escape there in the palace when all other Jews are killed.

ESTHER 2-4 NLT₁₉₉₆ (EDITED)

[14] If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. What's more, who can say but that you have been elevated to the palace for just such a time as this?"

ESTHER 2-4 NLT₁₉₉₆ (EDITED)

[4:15] Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: [16] “Go and gather together all the Jews of Susa and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will do the same. And then, though it is against the law, I will go in to see the king. If I must die, I am willing to die.”



ESTHER 2-4 NLT₁₉₉₆ (EDITED)

[17] So Mordecai went away and did as Esther told him.



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ESTHER 2 NLT₁₉₉₆

[16] When Esther was taken to King Xerxes at the royal palace in early winter ...

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He was so delighted with her that he set the royal crown on her head and declared her queen.



ESTHER 3 NLT₁₉₉₆

[3:7]nearly a year later

[3:8]Haman, the prime minister,
approached King Xerxes and said,
“There is a certain race of people ...

[9] If it please Your Majesty,
issue a decree that they be destroyed

ESTHER 4 NLT

11 “... anyone who appears before the king in his inner court without being invited is doomed to die unless the king holds out his gold scepter. And the king has not called for me to come to him for thirty days.”



ESTHER 4 NLT₁₉₉₆

[16] “... though it is against the law,
I will go in to see the king.
If I must die, I am willing to die.”

ESTHER 5 NLT

¹Esther put on her royal robes and entered the inner court of the palace, just across from the king's hall. The king was sitting on his royal throne, facing the entrance.

² When he saw Queen Esther standing there in the inner court, he welcomed her and held out the gold scepter to her.

ESTHER 8 NLT

⁷ Then King Xerxes said to Queen Esther...

⁸ “Now go ahead and send a message to the Jews in the king’s name, telling them whatever you want, and seal it with the king’s signet ring.



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Author of If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat

JOHN ORTBERG

WITH STEPHEN AND AMANDA SORENSON

WHEN THE GAME IS OVER

IT ALL GOES

BACK IN THE



SIX SESSIONS ON LIVING LIFE
IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY

**BIBLE HEROES AND HEROINES
WHO HAVE BIBLE BOOKS NAMED AFTER
THEM BECAUSE THEY BROUGHT
THEIR A-GAMES IN THE TOUGHEST
OF TIMES:**

Ruth

Nehemiah

Ezra

Esther

Daniel

Job



ESTHER'S RULE FOR THE GAME OF LIFE:

To follow and fulfill God's calling,
you will need to be willing
to leave behind the creature comforts!

**SOMETIMES OUR CALLING
COMES IN A MOMENT OF DESTINY.**



**SOMETIMES OUR CALLING COMES
THROUGH UNTOLD HOURS
OF UNSEEN AND UNSUNG HARD WORK.**



ESTHER 4:14 NLT₁₉₉₆

“... who can say but that you have been elevated to the palace for just such a time as this?”

ACTION STEP #1

Plan your moves on
life's game board we call
the calendar !

“The board that you and I play on comes in the shape of a calendar. It is filled with squares, and each square is another day. We live one square at a time.”

-- John Ortberg, a la Lewis Smedes



ACTION STEP #1

Plan your moves on
life's game board we call
the calendar!

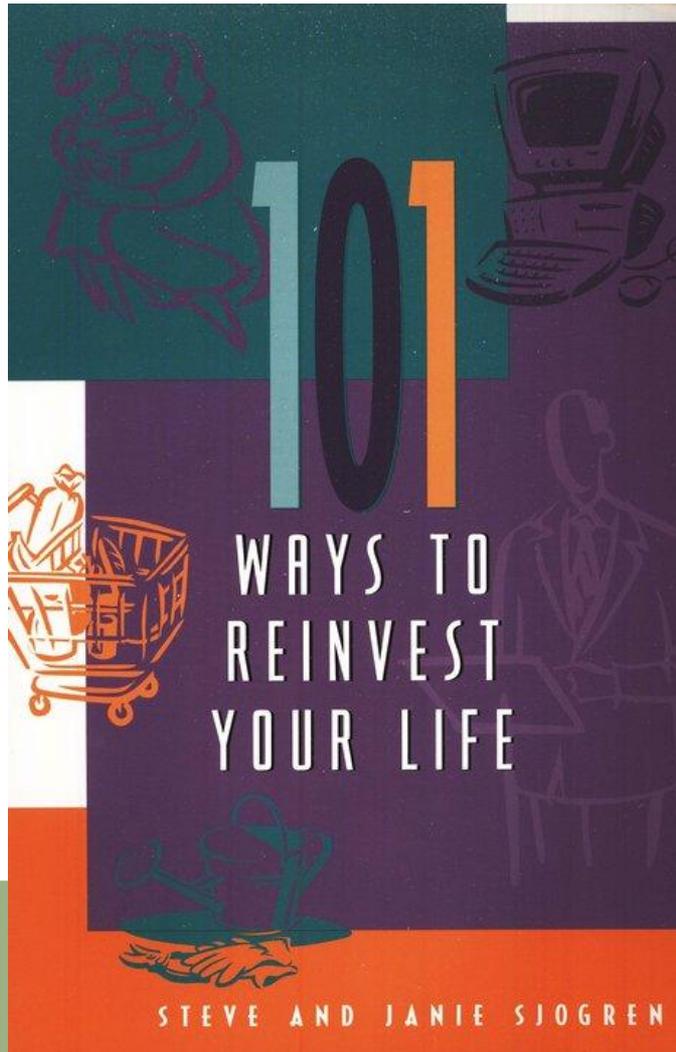


ACTION STEP #2

Talk about your calling
with the people who know you best and
whom you trust the most.

ACTION STEP #3

Let some of the great coaches lead you through the workouts that will bring out your best.

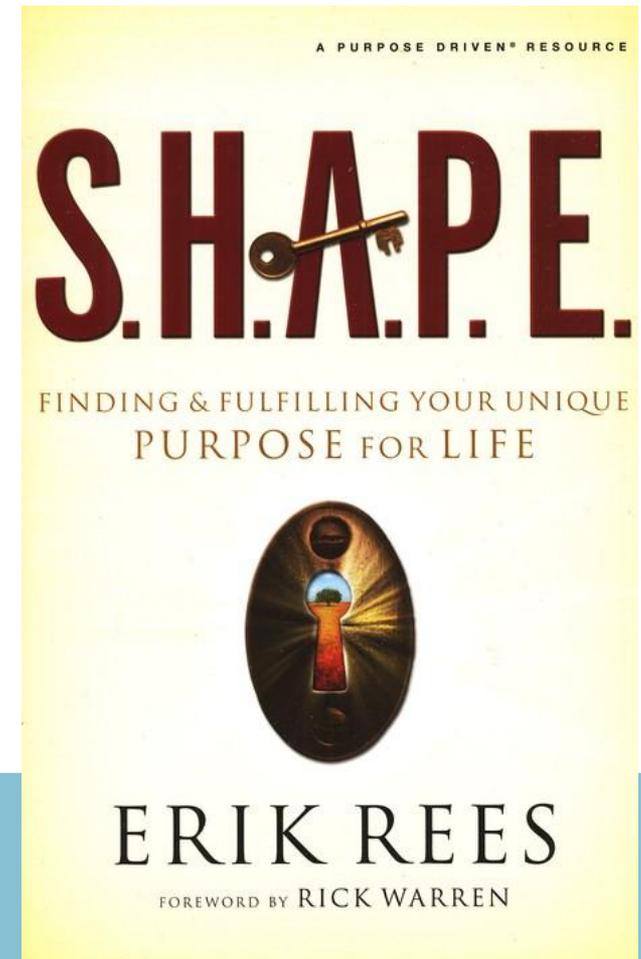


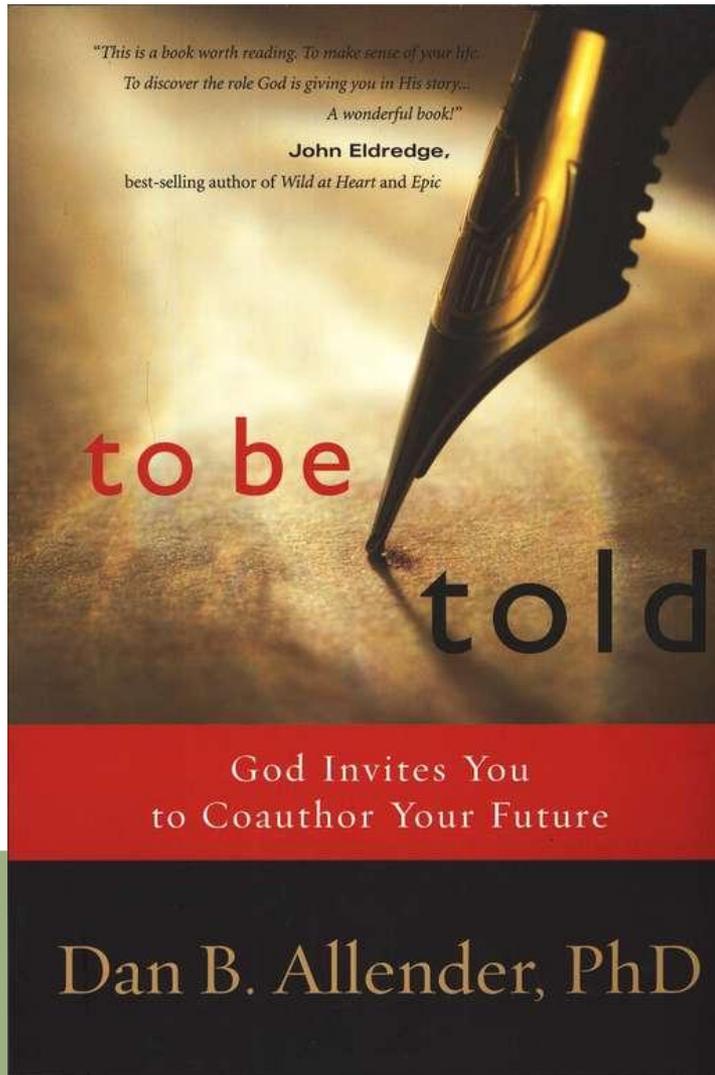
**For Positions Available!
Steve and Janet Sjogren
101 Ways
To Reinvest Your Life**

For calling out Gifts
and Talents

Erik Rees

S.H.A.P.E.: Finding and
Fulfilling Your Unique Purpose
For Life





For Getting The Storyline Dan Allender To Be Told: God Invites You To Coauthor Your Future

For Correcting Bad Habits

John Baker

Life's Healing Choices:

Freedom From

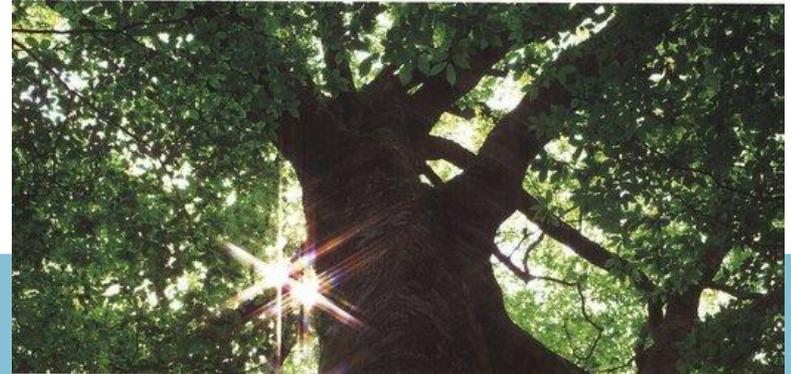
Your Hurts, Hang-ups,

And Habits

Foreword by Rick Warren
Author of #1 *New York Times* Bestseller *The Purpose Driven Life*

LIFE'S
HEALING
CHOICES

FREEDOM FROM YOUR HURTS,
HANG-UPS, *and* HABITS



JOHN BAKER

JOHN ELDREDGE

Small Group Resources

LEARNING WHAT YOUR
DAD COULD NEVER TEACH YOU

FATHERED
BY
GOD

A BAND OF BROTHERS
SMALL GROUP VIDEO SERIES

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

For Healing From Injuries
John Eldredge
Fathered By God:
Learning What Your Dad
Could Never Teach You

ACTION STEP #4

Pray for God
to put you in the game!

Talk about getting out of the chair
and onto God's playing field!

Learn from Eric LeGrand





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