

# messy faith

— FINDING OUR STORY IN ESTHER —

## Life Group Questions: Messy Favor

© 2014 Seacoast Church. All Rights Reserved.

### Read

Esther 2:9, 15-17

### Reflect

As we continue to follow Esther's story, we see that she "won favor" with everyone around her. This was not only due to her personality and gifts; it was part of the plan of God to save his people. Has there been a time in your life when you received the favor of God? How did he use you during that time? What did you learn from that experience?

Pastor Greg taught three truths about the favor of God:

1. God had a plan for Esther and he wanted her to succeed – so he gave her favor
  - a. What is your response when you see someone else receiving favor? Are you jealous? Resentful? Critical? What if instead you saw their favor as part of God's plan to use them? How would that change your attitude?
  - b. When someone else receives favor, we tend to assume that it comes at our expense. But the truth is that God is always at work and often uses other people to affect the lives of many others, including our own.
2. God has plans for you and he wants you to succeed – so he has given you favor
  - a. God does not only give favor to others; he gives it to us as well. But when God gives gifts, they are not merely for our own enjoyment. He gives us gifts for a purpose. Do you sometimes have trouble believing that God has given you favor?
3. Satan hates God's plan for you and he wants you to fail – so he tries to hide God's favor from you
  - a. The Enemy doesn't need to take our favor away – he simply needs to convince us that it isn't there, or that we don't deserve it, or that it isn't enough. What lies do we tell ourselves about the favor of God in our lives?
  - b. God has given you favor. What is keeping you from walking in this truth today?

What was your biggest take-away from the weekend message?

### Respond

- What do you feel like God is asking you to do in response to the weekend message? What is your next step?
- How can your Small Group support you and hold you accountable in this?