messy faith
— FINDING OUR STORY IN ESTHER —

Life Group Questions: You Can Run But Can't Really Hide

Read
Esther 6:6-9

Reflect

A lot of hiding happens in the book of Esther. She hid her identity as a Jew, Haman hid the truth about his plot to kill the Jews, and even God seems to hide – his name isn't found anywhere in the entire book. We all hide. We can all think of a time in our lives when we've tried to hide something, only to have it discovered. Sometimes that can be a liberating experience ("I didn't need to hide after all!") but sometimes it can be terrifying and humiliating. Why do you hide?

Pastor Greg gave us three things to remember when we're playing hide and seek with God

1. The natural tendency of the human heart is to hide
    a. After they sinned, Adam and Eve heard God coming and their immediate reaction was to hide. What do you try to hide from God? Why do we try to hide, even though we know that we can't keep things secret from God?
    b. What are some reasons people hide things from God and each other?
2. God is not limited in his ability to reveal the truth
    a. Can you think of a time when God revealed something you thought was totally secret?
    b. We are sometimes afraid that God will reveal the truth – but why? If God is good and loves us, then his motives will always be for our good. Why do we have a hard time trusting God when he wants us to reveal something?
3. Because of the Gospel, we don't have to hide anymore
    a. The Gospel reminds us that we are free. We are free from shame and guilt and our past. Is there anything you stopped hiding when you began to follow Jesus?
    b. How can we create safe spaces for those around us, so that they can stop hiding and be free?

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?