

# Esther's Model Prayer

Esther 5:1-8

Many churches take some part of the month of January to focus on prayer and fasting. I will offer a suggested prayer guide to assist you in this effort. "Aim at nothing and you will hit it every time" (Zig Ziglar). Prayer is praying for something specific and expecting a specific answer.

The major theme of the Bible is about saving lives. Esther had been chosen to save her people from imminent danger. Chapter 5 outlines Esther's prayer initiative to petition the King for the lives of her people. We can use Esther's example to save the lives of those endangered by the wages of sin.

The church's purpose is to save lives. Following example of Jesus, "to seek and to save the lost."

In 2024, we call upon the ministers and churches to reestablish "the greatest evangelism the world has ever known." This was the great desire of our Assemblies of God forefathers.

Step 1 - Preparation

A. Understand your identity

1. Fatherless to Adoption

Esther 2:7 (NKJV) And Mordecai had brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter, for she had neither father nor mother. The young woman was lovely and beautiful. When her father and mother died, Mordecai took her as his own daughter.

”For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.”“

Romans 8:15 NKJV

## 1. Favored and Affirmed

Esther 2:8-9 (NKJV) So it was, when the king's command and decree were heard, and when many young women were gathered at Shushan the citadel, under the custody of Hegai, that Esther also was taken to the king's palace, into the care of Hegai the custodian of the women. 9 Now the young woman pleased him, and she obtained his favor; so he readily gave beauty preparations to her, besides her allowance. Then seven choice maidservants were provided for her from the king's palace, and he moved her and her maidservants to the best place in the house of the women.

The Anointing of the Spirit confirms God’s favor and affirmation in our lives.

”Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the

third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”“  
Luke 24:46-49 NKJV

Jesus had His identity and was affirmed at His Baptism.

### 3. Chosen

”The king loved Esther more than all the other women, and she obtained grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins; so he set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.“  
Esther 2:17 NKJV

”But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.“  
I Peter 2:9-10 NKJV

### 4. Commit to the Cause

The cause is saving lives.

Esther 4:14 (NKJV) For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from

another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

a. Resist the enemies of the cause

1 John 2:15-17 (NKJV) Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world--the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life--is not of the Father but is of the world. 17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

Esther fought and won the victory over wicked Haman (devil), Her flesh, and the world system.

b. Discipline and determination are primary factors in engaging in the cause.

A submission of our will through fasting will prepare us to petition the King.

"You can do more than pray after you have prayed but you cannot do more than pray until you have prayed."

— S.D. Gordon, [Quiet Talks on Prayer](#)

PRAY 2024

More to come...

Step 2 - Protocol

There are proper procedures before meeting a Head of State. Authentic invitation, properly addressing the head of state, etiquette, honor the culture, required attire, etc. It is much more important when entering the presence of our Father God.

## A. Access

Esther 4:16 Esther said, “ ...And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish!”

### 1. By Grace

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

We have no access according to the law. It is only by the grace and favor of God that we have access.

### 2. The Finished Work of Christ

”What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.“

Romans 8:31-34 NKJV

### a. The third day

Esther 5:1

Now it happened on the third day that Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, across from the king's house, while the king sat on his royal throne in the royal house, facing the entrance of the house.

The third day reminds us of the resurrection of Christ that gave us access.

"Come, and let us return to the Lord; For He has torn, but He will heal us; He has stricken, but He will bind us up. After two days He will revive us; On the third day He will raise us up, That we may live in His sight."

Hosea 6:1-2 NKJV

### b. Clothed in His righteousness

Esther put on her royal robe.

"I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels."

Isaiah 61:10 NKJV

"For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

II Corinthians 5:21 NKJV.

Esther said, “Of I perish, I perish.” She lived the crucified life as we should, so Christ can love in and through us!

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

c. He sees us

When we come before the Father He sees the righteousness of Jesus. Thus giving us access.

Esther 5:2. So it was, when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, that she found favor in his sight, and the king held out to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther went near and touched the top of the scepter.

d. Golden Scepter of access

“The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him shall be the obedience of the people.”

Genesis 49:10 NKJV

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.”

Psalms 45:6 NKJV

"Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

Romans 5:1-2 NKJV

### Step 3 - Petition

Esther 5:3-5 And the king said to her, "What do you wish, Queen Esther? What is your request? It shall be given to you-- up to half the kingdom!" [4] So Esther answered, "If it pleases the king, let the king and Haman come today to the banquet that I have prepared for him." [5] Then the king said, "Bring Haman quickly, that he may do as Esther has said." So the king and Haman went to the banquet that Esther had prepared.

Petition is more than a request; it is entertaining the Person of prominence.

Paul explains how petition is made with thanksgiving.

Philippians 4:6-7 (NKJV) Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.



Before we rush in to make our request known, we should enter His presence with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise. Psalm 100

Esther was patient and entertained the King. This was the style of Mary and Martha; one severed while the other sat at Jesus' feet.

Esther didn't make her request at the first banquet, but invited the King back to another banquet. A good example of more praise and thanksgiving than making request.

Esther 5:7-8

Then Esther answered and said, "My petition and request is this: [8] If I have found favor in the sight of the king, and if it pleases the king to grant my petition and fulfill my request, then let the king and Haman come to the banquet which I will prepare for them, and tomorrow I will do as the king has said."

Esther's request more about the Kingdom and saving lives than it was personal. He was willing to give her half of the Kingdom. Who among us would have passed on that deal. Esther did and ultimately got more than half the kingdom for herself. because her request gave the Kingdom to those who had a death sentence on them.

Her petition was more like Psalm 103. Forgive all our sins, heal all our diseases, redeem our life from destruction, crown us with loving kindness and tender mercy, satisfy our mouth

with good things, and execute righteousness and judgement for all who are oppressed. This so fits Israel's scenario.

A. Pleasing through the sacrifice of our lips, our lives and livelihood.

Hebrews 13:15-16 Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.“

B. If and when we please Him, we then petition for the Kingdom's sake.

Esther 7:3 Then Queen Esther answered and said, "If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request.

#### Step 4 - Power Up

A. Acknowledge your give authority over the Enemy

Esther 7:5-6 So King Ahasuerus answered and said to Queen Esther,

"Who is he, and where is he, who would dare presume in his heart to do such a thing?" [6] And Esther said, "The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman!" So Haman was terrified before the king and queen.

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."

I Peter 5:8 NKJV

## B. Word Power

Esther 8:3-6

Now Esther spoke again to the king, fell down at his feet, and implored him with tears to counteract the evil of Haman the Agagite, and the scheme which he had devised against the Jews. [4] And the king held out the golden scepter toward Esther. So Esther arose and stood before the king, [5] and said, "If it pleases the king, and if I have found favor in his sight and the thing seems right to the king and I am pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to revoke the letters devised by Haman, the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to annihilate the Jews who are in all the king's provinces. [6] For how can I endure to see the evil that will come to my people? Or how can I endure to see the destruction of my countrymen?"

Esther 8:11 By these letters the king permitted the Jews who were in

every city to gather together and protect their lives--to destroy, kill, and annihilate all the forces of any people or province that would assault them, both little children and women, and to plunder their possessions,

The Sword of the Spirit is our weapon.

We overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony. Rev. 12:11

”For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,”  
II Corinthians 10:4 NKJV

### C. Praying in the Spirit

Put on the whole Armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil...”praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—“  
Ephesians 6:18 NKJV

Praying without ceasing.

### D. Praise

”Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song. Sing his praises in the assembly of the faithful. O Israel, rejoice in your Maker. O people of Jerusalem, exult in your King. Praise his name with dancing, accompanied by tambourine and harp. For the Lord delights in his people; he crowns the humble with victory. Let the faithful rejoice that he honors them. Let them sing for joy as they lie on their beds. Let the praises of God be in their mouths, and a sharp sword in their hands— to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples, to bind their kings with shackles and their leaders with iron chains, to execute the judgment written against them. This is the glorious privilege of his faithful ones. Praise the Lord!”

Psalms 149:1-9 NLT