

**Hidden: Esther The Imposter Queen**  
**Esther 1-10, Psalm 139:14**  
**February 14, 2021**

**WARM-UP QUESTIONS:**

1. Growing up, what “superhero” did you aspire to be? Share the reasons why you selected this character.
2. Have you ever met someone who seemingly was trying to be someone they were not? What made this obvious to you?
3. How would you describe the word, “imposter”? What are the traits or characteristics associated with this persona?
4. Have you ever had to step into a situation with a great deal of responsibility and risk? What was it like? How did you feel? What were some of the challenges? How did that experience shape your perception of power?

**REFLECTION QUESTIONS:**

1. The final individual in the book that we are focusing on is Esther. What do we know about her background? Consider her relationship with her cousin Mordecai, with King Xerxes, and Haman. What places her to be in a vulnerable position throughout the narrative? Although the text does not provide much information, what may guide and direct Esther’s decisions?
2. Pastors Shirley and Julie led us in an exercise where we examined how we perceive ourselves. Is your perception of your “true self” a positive or negative one? We are told that God delights in us as beloved children. How do we reconcile this with the ways we fall short? What really defines our true self?
3. Pastor January suggests that a transfer of power often leads to cycles of violence, and instead suggests that a better way is to share power. Do you agree or disagree? How might a shared power dynamic play out in different situations (your personal relationships, your workplace/school, church, government)?

**APPLICATION QUESTIONS:**

1. Take a moment to reflect where you hold power in your life. To those of us who feel powerless, why might we desire power, and what do we need to be careful of? For those of us with power, how should we use what we have been given?
2. As we wrap up our Esther series, what has been the strongest personal takeaways? As we have noted, God is not mentioned at all in this book. How can we recognize God’s presence when we may not feel God with us? What can we do to practice the presence of God in our everyday lives?