



## Celebrate Good Times...Come On!

(Esther 9 & 10 ) Sunday, August 30, 2020 AVBC

**Sermon in a Sentence:** God \_\_\_\_\_ when His children live life with a \_\_\_\_\_ - like Purim attitude!

**The Feast of Purim** is an annual Jewish holiday held on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of Adar (March/April) to celebrate and commemorate the miraculous victory of the Jews over their enemies who sought to fulfill Haman's evil holocaust plan.

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Q: How can we demonstrate a party-like Purim attitude today?

**1. We demonstrate a party-like Purim attitude when we enthusiastically \_\_\_\_\_ God's \_\_\_\_\_.**

**-FEASTING** has to do with recharging your \_\_\_\_\_

**-REJOICING** has to do with recharging your \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Invite 4-5 people from church over for a distance dessert potluck in back yard/garage/park
- ☐ Plan a surprise "We Appreciate \_\_\_\_\_" party complete with fun food and gifts and games
- ☐ Organize a "Friends Are Friends Forever" coffee time with some people haven't seen long time...reminisce about the crazy times you enjoyed together
- ☐ Bring a big plate of homemade baking to work & share them with everyone in the office...boss too

**2. We demonstrate a party-like Purim attitude when we generously \_\_\_\_\_ God's blessings.** (Matt. 6:1-4)

- ☐ Drop off a bunch of groceries to a single parent
- ☐ Pick up some flowers and deliver them to a shut-in.
- ☐ Give generously to a humanitarian need (ie. Lebanon)

**3. We demonstrate a party-like Purim attitude when we \_\_\_\_\_ upon God's sovereign care.**

- ☐ Review this past year. Write out the highs, the lows as well as the grace of God along the way.
- ☐ Reflect upon your spiritual journey since trusting Jesus. List significant turning points, then share your story with someone who is just beginning their walk with Jesus.
- ☐ Find a quiet place, cast your cares upon the Lord and let Him love you.

*You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly...**BUT GOD** demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:6,8)*

## DIGGING DEEPER

(For use in personal/family devotions or with your care group)

Q1: Can you think of one or more memorable parties in your life? If so, describe.

Q2: What do you think are the key components to a great party?

Q3: What are some practical/ fun things you can do to enjoy God's good gifts?

Q4: Study Nehemiah 8:5-12. What does this passage teach you about a God-honouring celebration?

Q5: Have you ever been a recipient of an unexpected and generous gift? If so, describe the kinds of feelings you experienced.

Q6: On a scale of 1 to 10, how important is resting and reflecting in your life? What would it take to move it closer to a 10?

Q7: Read and reflect upon Proverbs 11:25 and Proverbs 22:9. What is the Lord saying to you from these verses?

Q8: What will you do to enjoy God's good gifts...or generously share God's blessings...or quietly reflect on God's sovereign care? Be as specific as possible.