

THEME: THE SIGNATURE OF YOU
DON'T LET PRIDE STEAL YOUR PURPOSE
ESTHER 5:1-6:13
01.26.27.2019

Questions: How does pride steal our purpose? What is the solution?

5:1 On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, in front of the king's quarters, while the king was sitting on his royal throne inside the throne room opposite the entrance to the palace. **2** And when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, she won favor in his sight, and he held out to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther approached and touched the tip of the scepter. **3** And the king said to her, "What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? It shall be given you, even to the half of my kingdom." **4** And Esther said, "If it please the king, let the king and Haman come today to a feast that I have prepared for the king." **5** Then the king said, "Bring Haman quickly, so that we may do as Esther has asked." So the king and Haman came to the feast that Esther had prepared.

9 And Haman went out that day joyful and glad of heart. But when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he neither rose nor trembled before him, he was filled with wrath against Mordecai.

10 Nevertheless, Haman restrained himself and went home, and he sent and brought his friends and his wife Zeresh. **11 And Haman recounted to them the splendor of his riches, the number of his sons, all the promotions with which the king had honored him, and how he had advanced him above the officials and the servants of the king.** **12** Then Haman said, "Even Queen Esther let no one but me come with the king to the feast she prepared. And tomorrow also I am invited by her together with the king. **13 Yet all this is worth nothing to me, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate."**

How does pride steal our purpose?

I. PRIDE STEALS OUR SECURITY

Pride reduces everything in our life down to a means to an end.

14 Then his wife Zeresh and all his friends said to him, "Let a gallows fifty cubits high be made, and in the morning tell the king to have Mordecai hanged upon it. Then go joyfully with the king to the feast." This idea pleased Haman, and he had the gallows made.

How does pride steal our purpose?

II. PRIDE FEEDS OUR RESENTMENT

Has your pride ever led you to resent someone?

Pride will protect itself at all cost, even if it costs someone else.

6:3 And the king said, “What honor or distinction has been bestowed on Mordecai for this?” The king's young men who attended him said, “Nothing has been done for him.” **4** And the king said, “Who is in the court?” Now Haman had just entered the outer court of the king's palace to speak to the king about having Mordecai hanged on the gallows that he had prepared for him.

10 Then the king said to Haman, **“Hurry; take the robes and the horse, as you have said, and do so to Mordecai the Jew, who sits at the king's gate.** Leave out nothing that you have mentioned.” **11** So Haman took the robes and the horse, and he dressed Mordecai and led him through the square of the city, proclaiming before him, **“Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delights to honor.”**

12 Then Mordecai returned to the king's gate. But Haman hurried to his house, mourning and with his head covered. **13** And Haman told his wife Zeresh and all his friends everything that had happened to him. Then his wise men and his wife Zeresh said to him, “If Mordecai, before whom you have begun to fall, is of the Jewish people, you will not overcome him but will surely fall before him.”

How does pride steal our purpose?

III. PRIDE LEAVES US EMPTY

So, what's the solution?

IV. LET GOD'S GRACE WRECK YOU

- Practice times of Mercy (Confession)
- Practice times of Grace (Gratitude)