

## Royal Redeemer Going Deeper Guide

Based on the sermon for December 19, 2021:  
*Christmas Gifts: God's Gift Exchange*

**For personal reflection or for use as a devotion with CGS  
Community or family**



- **CONNECT** *with each other*

1. When has God resolved an impossible situation for you?

- **GROW** *in Christ* (read Esther 6: 1-11)

**6** That night the king could not sleep; so he ordered the book of the chronicles, the record of his reign, to be brought in and read to him. <sup>2</sup>It was found recorded there that Mordecai had exposed Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's officers who guarded the doorway, who had conspired to assassinate King Xerxes. <sup>3</sup>"What honor and recognition has Mordecai received for this?" the king asked. "Nothing has been done for him," his attendants answered. <sup>4</sup>The king said, "Who is in the court?" Now Haman had just entered the outer court of the palace to speak to the king about impaling Mordecai on the pole he had set up for him. <sup>5</sup>His attendants answered, "Haman is standing in the court." "Bring him in," the king ordered. <sup>6</sup>When Haman entered, the king asked him, "What should be done for the man the king delights to honor?" Now Haman thought to himself, "Who is there that the king would rather honor than me?" <sup>7</sup>So he answered the king, "For the man the king delights to honor, <sup>8</sup>have them bring a royal robe the king has worn and a horse the king has ridden, one with a royal crest placed on its head. <sup>9</sup>Then let the robe and horse be entrusted to one of the king's most noble princes. Let them robe the man the king delights to honor, and lead him on the horse through the city streets, proclaiming before him, 'This is what is done for the man the king delights to honor!'" <sup>10</sup>"Go at once," the king commanded Haman. "Get the robe and the horse and do just as you have suggested for Mordecai the Jew, who sits at the king's gate. Do not neglect anything you have recommended." <sup>11</sup>So Haman got the robe and the horse. He robed Mordecai, and led him on horseback through the city streets, proclaiming before him, "This is what is done for the man the king delights to honor!"

1. What struck you as you read or heard the scripture read?
2. How do you imagine Mordecai felt knowing the plot Haman had hatched against him?
3. How did God, working behind the scenes of ordinary events, change Haman's plans?
4. What feelings do you imagine Mordecai had when Haman's plot was defeated?
5. How would you apply the idea of God's Gift Exchange to what happened to Mordecai?
6. What is God's Gift Exchange to us in relation to our salvation? (read 2 Corinthians 5: 21 for a clue).
7. How could reminding ourselves of God's Gift Exchange help us deal with the Hustle, bustle and stress of the Christmas Season?

- **SERVE** *others*

*Pray that God would use you to bring this message of "God's Gift Exchange" to someone this Christmas. Then act on what you sense God encouraging you to do.*

- **End with Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, or a short Blessing.**