

How to Become a Great Person Worth Finding & Having

Book of Esther – Part 3 of 4

By Brian Kluth This 8/28/12 TEACHING VIDEO & HANDOUT will be posted online to share with others www.christiansinglesindenv.com

Avoid making foolish and prideful decisions that will break a relationship apart

Understand some of MEN's God-given responsibilities

1-Providing, 2-Pleasing her, 3-Planning, Preparing, Problem Solving , 4-Physical Passion & Purity, 5-Praying, 6-Protecting, 7-Prioritizing, prizing, and pampering her with love, 8-Praising her privately and publicly, 9- Playing together, 10-Partnering together to become one, 11-Pursuing her thoughts, and 12-Purifying a woman with his sacrifice and words. VIDEO@ ChristianSinglesInDenver.com.

Realize you need Christ to have the power to live the life God wants you to live.

Understand some of WOMEN's God-given responsibilities

1-Companionship and completing, 2-Cooperating, 3-Communicating clearly and counseling lovingly, 4-Captivating and cherishing your husband physically, 5- Caring , 6-Creating a home life, celebrations, and bringing beauty into your home, 7-Committed to being productive , 8-Congratulating, cheering him on, encouraging, affirming, respecting 9-Crowning his life, 10-Cultivating your relationship with Christ. Discussion groups were asked to come up with more "C"s for women – some said "Compassionate Listener, Cooking, and Credit Card Carrier!" VIDEO@ ChristianSinglesInDenver.com.

TONIGHT'S CONTEXT: "THE BACHELOR" meets AMERICAN IDOL – But losers don't get sent home.
Esther 2:2-4 (The King's) personal attendants suggested, "Let us search the empire to find beautiful young virgins for the king. Let the king appoint agents in each province (=127) to bring these beautiful young women into the royal harem at the fortress of Susa. Hegai, the king's eunuch in charge of the harem, will see that they are all given beauty treatments. After that, the young woman who most pleases the king will be made queen instead of Vashti." This advice was very appealing to the king, so he put the plan into effect.

#1 – Don't let your pain define or confine you – bloom where you're planted

Esther 2:5-6 There was a Jewish man in the fortress of Susa whose name was Mordecai...His family had been among those who...had been exiled from Jerusalem to Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar.

Gen 39:21 But the LORD was with Joseph [in prison] and extended kindness to him, and gave him favor in the sight of the chief jailer. **Rom 8:28** We know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

*People can hurt you, but JESUS will HEAL you. People can humiliate you, but JESUS will HONOR you.
People can judge you, but JESUS will JUSTIFY you. People can criticize you, but JESUS will CHERISH you.
People can lie to you, but JESUS will speak TRUTH to you. People can laugh at you, but JESUS will LOVE you.*

People can mess up your life, but JESUS will make you a MESSAGE by your life.

People can try to destroy you, but JESUS will give you a DESTINY.

People can try to trounce you, but JESUS will help you TRIUMPH.

People can try to victimize you, but JESUS will make you a VICTOR!

God's windshield of our future is bigger and brighter than the rear-view mirror of your past.

#2 – Be a person who cares about the needs of others

Esther 2:7 Mordecai had a cousin named Hadassah, whom he had brought up because she had neither father nor mother. This young woman, who was also known as Esther, had a lovely figure and was beautiful. Mordecai had taken her as his own daughter when her father and mother died.

Phil 2:4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

James 1:27 A religion that is pure and stainless according to God the Father is this: to take care of orphans and widows who are suffering, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Esther 2:11 (After Esther was taken to the harem) Every day he walked back and forth near the courtyard of the harem to find out how Esther was and what was happening to her.

#3 - Be a person who respects and listens to those in authority

Esther 2:10 Esther had not told anyone of her nationality and family background, because Mordecai had directed her not to do so. **Esther 2:15** When it was Esther's turn to go to the king, she accepted the advice of Hegai, the eunuch in charge of the harem. She asked for nothing except what he suggested.

Romans 13:1 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

#4 – Be aware that being physically attractive takes time and effort

Esther 2:12-14^{TLB} Before being taken to the King's bed, each would be given six months of beauty treatment with oil and myrrh, followed by six months of beauty treatments with special perfumes and ointments. Then, as each girl's turn came for spending the night with the King, she was given her choice of clothing or jewelry she wished, to enhance her beauty. **Ruth 3:2-3** (Naomi told her widowed daughter-in-law, Ruth) "Tonight he [Boaz] will be winnowing barley on the threshing floor. Wash and perfume yourself, and put on your best clothes. Then go down to the threshing floor..."

#5 - Be aware true beauty comes from within and will be noticed by others

Esther 2:15 Esther won the hearts of all who saw her.

1 Peter 3:3-4 Your adornment ought not to be a merely outward thing--one of plaiting the hair, putting on jewelry, or wearing beautiful dresses. Instead of that, it should be a new nature within--the imperishable ornament of a gentle and peaceful spirit, which is indeed precious in the sight of God.

Esther 2:17 Well, the king loved Esther more than any of the other girls. He was so delighted with her that he set the royal crown on her head and declared her queen instead of Vashti.

#6 – Be a person that makes other people better because you are in their life

Esther 2:18 To celebrate the occasion, [the king] threw another big party for all his officials and servants, giving generous gifts to everyone and making grants to the provinces in the form of remission of taxes.

1 Cor 15:33 Don't let anyone deceive you. Associating with bad people will ruin decent people.

Hebrews 10:24 Let us think of ways to motivate (=stimulate, stir, encourage, spark) one another to acts of love and good works.

NEXT TIME (in 2 weeks on Sept 11): #7 to #12 - Live for more than a wedding, discover what it takes to live out your God given destiny married or singles.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. (Everyone to answer) Share your name, your career field, and how many siblings you have.

Questions to have 2-3 people answer and discuss as a group:

2. Was there something new that you learned about God or people tonight that was helpful?
3. What truth or story did you heard in tonight that was a positive encouragement to you?
4. Under point #1, Brian had a list of things Jesus can do in someone's life – based on this list what is something He has done or you like Him to do in your life?
5. Look at point #6 -- Who is someone in your life that is helping or motivating and helping you to become a "better person"? How? (e.g. friend, author, pastor, teacher, co-worker, neighbor)
6. What was the most challenging part about this teaching you heard tonight?
7. If you really took this teaching to heart, what changes could it make in your life in the future?