

## Approaching the King

### Esther 4:11-7:10

Intro: It was a life-and-death situation for Esther and her people, and it all depended on Esther's approach to King Xerxes.

#### I. Apprehension

- a. Put to death if not summoned by king (Esther 4:11)
- b. "Woe to me! My eyes have seen the King" (Isaiah 6:5)

#### II. Prayer/Preparation

- a. A three-day fast (Esther 4:16)
- b. "Wash your hands and purify your hearts" (James 4:8)

#### III. Permission

- a. The king was pleased to summon her (Esther 5:2)
- b. "I have summoned you by name" (Isaiah 43:1)

#### 4. Reverence

- a. Proper awareness and appreciation of power
- b. "Worship God...with reverence and awe" (Heb.

12:28)

#### 5. Outfit

- a. Esther put on her royal robes (Esther 5:1)
- b. What is the proper attire for approaching God?

#### 6. Ask

- a. "What is your request?" (Esther 5:3, 6; 7:2)
- b. "Ask me for anything in my name," (Jn. 14:14)

#### 7. Confidence

- a. "It will be given you." (Esther 5:3, 6; 7:2)
- b. "...and I will do it" (Jn. 14:14; Heb. 4:16)

#### 8. Honor/Humility

- a. "If it pleases the king..." (Esther 5:4, 8; 7:3)
- b. "That the Father may be glorified..." (Jn. 14:13)

Close: Esther approached her king in the proper fashion, and it pleased the king to grant her her requests.

God delights when we approach Him and ask—in Christ.