

## the whole story: Part 4 called

# TALK IT OVER

### Key Scriptures

#### Esther 4:13-17

**13** Then Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, “Do not think to yourself that in the king’s palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. **14** For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father’s house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”

**15** Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai, **16** “Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my young women will also fast as you do. Then I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish.” [c] **17** Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

**Luke 14:28** For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?

#### Isaiah 55:8-9

8 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. **9** “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

#### Ephesians 2:10

**10** For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

#### QUOTES TO ENCOURAGE:

The most extraordinary callings generally originate when someone less than spectacular is faithfully worshipping God in the humble circumstances of daily life.

We need to demystify the calling and normalize the value of simple daily worship.

Simple, daily worship is likely the vessel in which your greatest calling will be made clear by God!

**Start Talking.** Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Pick one of the following (literal or metaphorical): enemy to oppose, problem to solve, people to protect, person to reach. If you could snap your fingers and bring a solution to any of those, which would it be?

**Start Thinking.** Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Has your view of calling been more mystified or simple? How has your view helped or hindered you from pursuing your calling?
- Are you better able to see God’s calling in the lives of others or yourself? Why do you think that is?
- Consider the four common traits of calling (enemy to oppose, problem to solve, people to protect, person to reach). How many of the four can you identify in your life? Can you write out a calling statement for yourself by combining your responses to the four traits? Reminder most people have two or three of the traits, but some only have one or two!

**Start Sharing.** Choose a question to create openness.

- We want to empower you to go the distance in your calling. Which of the following do you need to take to heart to go the distance?
  - Calling costs: count the cost because failure to do so will make it harder than it was meant to be.
  - Calling sustains or satisfies there should be measurable ways or memorable stories to find fulfillment in your calling. It may be as simple as journaling moments of victory in your mission for God.
  - Calling requires accountability: someone to speak into, encourage, counsel, critique, and give advice on your calling can make a huge difference.
  - Calling often doesn’t make sense until later, if at all: its okay if you don’t get to skip to the end of the story. The parts of your calling that are the most difficult often don’t make sense until God has completed His plan for your calling or for that season.

**Start Praying.** Pray this prayer in your own words over the person next to you!

*Father in Heaven, thank you for the good work you have prepared for me. It is an honor to be part of your plans that will bring you glory. Please equip and encourage me in my calling. Please give me greater clarity and endurance in my calling. AND please use me to help others go the distance in their callings. I ask all of this in Jesus’ name, amen!*

**Start Doing.** Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Take one step today to further your calling. Write it down. Share it with someone. Just one step. It doesn’t have to be giant. Just one step in the direction God is guiding your life.

Find out more by checking out the series “the whole story – part 4” at [www.myrestore.church](http://www.myrestore.church)