

January 19, 2020

NORTH METRO CHURCH

NMC SERMON SERIES CONTENT



The “Darkroom” SERIES OVERVIEW:

In order for film to be developed into a photo, a photographer must take the film into a darkroom where the film is taken through a meticulous chemical process. As followers of Jesus, God takes each of us through times, often difficult times, in order to develop us into the image of His Son. In our next series, entitled The Darkroom, we are going to take a look at several people throughout the Bible who had to go through a “darkroom” experience that would prepare them for God’s call on their lives. In the process, our hope is that we will all discover what they learned and apply it to our lives.

THE “DARKROOM”

WEEK 3



Icebreaker:

Describe a time when you took on more risk than you were comfortable with. What prompted you to take that risk? What happened?

Discussion Questions:

BONUS material: Here is a link to a 6-minute video **overview of Esther from “The Bible Project.”**
<https://youtu.be/JydNSlufRIs>

Did you learn anything new or surprising from the video? Did it change the way you view the book of Esther? If so, how?

Read the story (the highlights) of Esther, found in Esther 2:12-18 & 4:14.

Have ever found yourself in a Darkroom experience that was possibly the result of your own choices? If so, would you be willing to share your story?

Have you ever broken a rule, law, or cultural standard in order to do the right thing? If so, what happened?

Why does it often feel like God is absent from our darkroom experiences?

Even though God is never mentioned in the book of Esther, did you feel his presence in the story as you read it? Explain.

How does Esther's experience inform your past, present and/or future darkroom experience(s)? How do you tend to view God's activity in your life? For example, is he active in orchestrating events and relationships, or do you see him as more of a hands-off character in the background who occasionally shows up?

Knowing that Jesus is "not done with you yet," how does that inform your understanding of His love and His purpose for you?

APPLYING WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED...

Think about the position you're in, the relationships you have, and the talents, gifts, and resources available to you. What do you think God might be doing in and through those things?

Looking back at this week's teaching and study, is there one thing you'd especially like to remember this week?

What questions do you still have?