

Dig-a-bit Month 9 Episode 2
The God of More: The God of More Deliverance
Cindy Colley

Deliverance in Esther

Hi, welcome to month nine. We are the God of more deliverance, and I'm really excited tonight that I have a couple of guests with me. We've had a couple of grandchildren guests before on a couple of times and tonight we have Eliza Jane and Colleyanna. Can you say hi Eliza Jane?

Hi.

And how old are you, Eliza?

Six.

She is just now six years old as of Friday. Thank you for joining us. She knows a lot about Easter. Tell me, Eliza Jane, how many times do we read God's name in the book of Esther?

None.

That's right. We don't read his name at all. But was he working in the book of Esther?

Yes.

Obviously, he was taking care of those Jews. And the big word we use for it is he was delivering those Jews, wasn't he? Now, what was the king's name in the book of Esther?

Xerxes

Colleyanna, that was Colleyanna. And we welcome Colleyanna too. Colleyanna, how old are you?

I'm nine.

And Colleyanna knows a lot about the Bible. Now, we haven't really practiced this before, so we may have to give some hints here and there, but they're going to do a great job, I think, telling you about this deliverance that happened in the book of Esther. So the king's name was Xerxes, and he gave a big feast at his palace for all the men. Does anybody remember what the name of his palace was? His palace was in— raise your hand if you know.

Shushan

Shushan is right.

Good, Colleyanna! The palace was in Shushan and it was a beautiful palace. And listen, in the palace were white, green and blue hangings with cords of fine linen and purple attached to silver rings and pillars of marble, and their beds were made of gold and silver upon a pavement of red and blue, and white and black marble. And they drank their wine at this feast they got drunk, and they drank their wine in gold glasses. Have you ever drunk in gold glasses?

No

I don't think so. But they were having a rich, rich, rich feast and they were drinking. And somebody said it would be a great idea to invite the Queen in there to parade around in front of these drunken men.

Now, what was that queen's name? Can anybody remember?

Vashti

Vashti was her name. And so, Colleyanna, Vashti said, "Sure, I'll come." Is that right?

No.

What does she say?

She said, she said that she wouldn't go.

She said that she wouldn't go and parade around in front of all those drunken men. Oh, but they didn't like that. And what did those men say? Let's see if Eliza knows.

If you don't banish her or do something our wives will do that to us.

That's what they said. You're going to have to punish her, banish her or something. Because if your wife doesn't obey you and you're the king, then our wives won't obey us either. So what did the king do?

He banished her.

But then there was no...no what?

Queen.

There was no queen. And so they had a problem, didn't they? But the men had another bright idea that they would bring all of the most beautiful women into the palace and let them try out...sort of audition to be the Queen. Well, there was a man— a Jewish man who was a good

man, and he had an idea about a woman to send in to the king. Now, what was the name of the man who had the idea to— oh, Eliza thinks she knows.

Mordecai

Mordecai is right. Very good. And Mordecai said someone should go in.

And who did you think should go in?

Esther.

So go ahead and tell me about Esther. Did she go?

Yes.

Go ahead and tell me.

She came in and when it was her turn, the king liked her...

He liked her. How much?

A lot.

Best of all, didn't he? He liked her best of all. And he chose her to be the queen. And so now we have a Jewish, really a Jewish slave girl. They were in captivity. And she is the queen. Wow, that is amazing. And where did Mordecai like to stay? Where did you like to stay when Queen Esther was in the palace, Colleyanna?

Um, at like the gate.

He liked to stay right by the king's door. Yeah, right by the gate. And one day he overheard the gatekeepers, and they had a terrible plot. What did they want to do? What did the gatekeepers want to do? Do you remember? They were planning to...

Oh, kill him.

Kill who?

The king.

They were going to kill the king. That's right. Does anybody remember the names of the gatekeepers? You know them? What were their names?

Bigthan and Teresh

Bigthan and Teresh were the names of the gatekeepers. And they wanted to kill the king. And who overheard that plot?

Do you remember who heard Bigthan and Teresh talking?

Mordecai.

Mordecai heard them talking. And so he sent a message to Esther that they were about to try to kill the king. And so they got, oh, what happened to them? They got...

Killed.

They got killed. That's right. Bigthan and Teresh got killed. But there was one important thing that happened. What important thing happened to that information? Do you remember what happened to that information?

It was put into the chronicles.

It was written into the Chronicles. That's right. And that's going to be real important later that it was written into the chronicles. Now, the king had another servant who was a very, very bad man. But the king thought he was a pretty important servant. Do you remember that man's name? Yeah. I want you to tell me you know his name—Remember the bad man that wanted to kill all the Jews?

His name was Haman.

That's right, his name was Haman. He didn't like the Jews. But there was one Jew that he really hated. You see, Haman was a proud man, and he wanted everybody to do what?

Bowed down to him.

He wanted everybody to bow down to him. But there was one man that just was not going to bow down to him. He wasn't going to bow down to any man. And who was that man that would not bow down to Haman?

Mordecai.

Mordecai would not bow down to Haman at all. And it made Haman so, so, so mad.

00;07;58;07 - 00;08;23;02

Unknown

And so Haman went to the king and he said, I have an idea. I have an idea, King. Let's let all the Jews just be...

Killed.

Let's let them be killed on this certain day. And what would happen if all the Jews were killed? What would happen to their...

Stuff. It would go to the King.

This stuff would go to the king. That's right. And so Haman said, you'll be a lot richer. And the king said, well, that sounds like a great idea. We'll just have all of these people killed. Well, that made Heyman really, really happy, didn't it? And so the word went out that all of the Jews were going to be killed. And poor Mordecai, heard about it. And what did Mordecai do?

He ripped his clothes and wept, and fasted.

He ripped his clothes and he put on something. Do you remember what he put on? Sackcloth and ashes? And he ripped his clothes and prayed and fasted, and he was so worried. And he sent— there was a servant who took a letter in to Esther and told her about it.

And he said, Esther, you're going to have to go plead for the Jews, because the king might listen to you. And was Esther afraid to go to the king?

Yes.

Why was she afraid? She had not been in there. Do you remember how many days it had been said she had seen the king?

Many

Many days. That's right. But how many was it?

30.

She hadn't seen the king in 30 days. And she was afraid. And she said he might not hold up his. Can you remember what that thing was called? That the king had a hold up scepter?

Okay, well, Eliza said wand and she said scepter. And that's really the same thing. Oh the rod. Okay. She said, rod, but it's really the same thing. And the King would hold that up. And that meant you can come. And so that Esther said, but I'm scared. I'm scared. And Mordecai said, well, if you don't go, there will be another way found to deliver us. But Esther said, I'm going to go. And if...

If he... if I die, I die.

That's right. If I die, I will just die. So on the third day, Esther put on her royal apparel and she put on her crown, and she went over against the gate of the house. And when...hmm? I said crown...and when she went over to the king, she was very much afraid.

But you know what the king did? What did he do?

He held the scepter up. He held his scepter up.

He held the scepter up. That's right. And so she went to him and he said, what do you want? I'll give you whatever you want. And she said, I want you and Haman to come to... you know...

A dinner.

That's right. I want you to come to a dinner. And so Haman, oh, Haman was really excited about that. She said, if I have found favor on your sight, I'm going to prepare you a dinner. And Haman oh oh. He was so excited about that. He went home and told Zeresh (Zeresh was his wife) and he went home and said, guess my guess what?

The Queen wants me to come to a feast. It's almost like I'm Cinderella. When it said the prince was having a ball, it was like the queen is having a dinner, for me! Oh, and he was so excited he thought, I'm the favorite. I'm the favorite servant of all the servants. And so he went with a glad heart. But on the way home to tell his wife, he passed by Mordecai. And Mordecai would not... you know... Mordecai...Let's see if Eliza knows. I think she knows. Mordecai would not...say it...

Bow down!

Mordecai would not bow down. And it made Haman so mad and so he went home and he told his wife, and his wife said, well, you're more important than Mordecai. Yeah, I know what you could do. You could build a gallows. Do you know what a gallows is?

It's that thing that you hang a person on and he'll die.

Oh, yes. And she said, go ahead and build that. Go ahead and build a gallows. And he'll have to die on the gallows. Well, it was the night before the banquet, and the king could not sleep. And so the king said, someone needs to come and read me...

A story.

A story. And he called for the book of the...

Chronicles.

And they were reading the story, and I read the story about when the man wanted to kill him and he said, oh, I forgot all about that. He said, who was that man that saved my life? And I said, it was...

Mordecai.

It was Mordecai. That's right. And he said, has anything been done for Mordecai to honor him? Then they said...

No.

No, we don't think so. And he said, we need to get a good thing to honor him. And so just about that time, who was standing right outside the king's door?

Mordecai.

No, not Mordecai this time.

Haman.

Haman was standing right outside the King's door and he called Haman in and he said, Haman, what thing should I do if I want to honor someone, what should I do? Well, I thought, oh goody, oh goody. I think he wants to honor...

Me.

And so Haman said, oh here's what...does anybody remember what Haman's idea was? What was his idea?

You should sit that person on the King's horse. And he should wear the king's clothes and wear the King's crown and go around the town and the servants carrying him saying, this is the man the king wants to honor.

That's right. So Haman thought, Oh, I'm gonna get to ride on that...

Horse.

I'm going to get to wear the King's...

Clothes.

What did Haman think? Just go ahead and tell me. He just thought the King just —Haman just thought, oh, this is all about me. And so the King said, okay. The one I want to honor is. Mordecai.

Mordecai, you say it differently than I do, but that's okay. The one I want to honor is Mordecai. And Haman, just you can just see his face just going like a balloon, just deflating. And he thought, oh, it's not going to be me after all. And the king said, you can be the one who brings him around on the...

Horse.

Yeah, you can be the one who brings him around on the horse. You can be the one who leads him. And so Haman had to lead Mordecai through the town on the horse and it made him so, so mad. Well, Esther had her first banquet and at the first banquet, what did she ask him to do?

Came to another banquet.

Come to another... She couldn't get her courage up I guess. She didn't know she was gonna have to ask for the salvation of the Jews. But she was waiting until the right time. And so, at the second banquet. Oh, Haman was so sad. He went to his house mourning. And he said, everybody needs to bow down to me. And now I've had to carry around this, this man on this horse, and it's the man that won't bow down to me. And so they came to the banquet on the second day and, and he said, what is your request? And Esther said, my people are sold, and there's an enemy, and this enemy is trying to have my people killed. And the king said, who is the enemy that wants the people killed? Who was the enemy?

Haman.

It was wicked old Haman. That's right. He's the one who wanted to have them killed. And oh, how did the king respond to that?

He ripped his clothes. He went out to the garden and he ripped his clothes.

He was sad and mad and he went out to the garden and he said, but first, before he went out to the garden, he said, who is it that wants to kill you. And just like Eliza said, it was Haman that wanted to kill the Jews. And the King came back out of the garden. And what did Haman do while the king was in the garden?

Get on the couch and look and and Beg for, Esther to not...

To not kill him, right?

To not kill him.

Yeah. He was up on Esther's couch begging for Esther not to kill him. But the king came in and he said, "You're on my wife's bed? He said, are you going to take my wife too? One of the

chamberlains, said, you know what? (The king was so mad at Heyman.) And one of the Chamberlains said, well, outside I saw something outside. What did he say outside?

A gallows.

Who built that gallows?

Haman.

But he said, there's a gallows outside. And what did the King do with the gallows? Who'd he hang out there?

He put Heyman on them.

Yeah. What happens to someone usually when they hang on a gallows?

Die.

They die. And sometimes what happens to them? To their bodies?

The birds eat them.

Sometimes that happens, doesn't it? Haman had to die on the gallows. And it was a gallows that was built for Mordecai. Yeah, but Esther then came to the king and fell down on his feet, and she cried and she said, if you could just save my people! And so what the King did is he— on the day that he had promised he was going to kill them all instead of killing them all? He said, you come out and fight, you can come out and fight and you can save yourselves. And so on that day, the Jews had a mighty, mighty victory, a mighty deliverance. Now, who did the King give wicked old Haman's ring to? Who did he give the ring to?

Mordecai? Mordecai?

Yeah, it's ok to say, Mordecai. Most people say Mordecai. Mordecai. Mammy just reads in her Bible the pronunciation that's in her Dixon and it's Mordecai. So he put Haman's ring on Mordecai and who did he give Haman's stuff to? You remember?

Mordecai?

Mordecai and Mordecai became over a whole province with all of Heyman's house, and he was rich and the Jews were rich, and they still have a feast today to celebrate that day when Esther the queen, with all authority, saved the Jews, all of the Jews, and they became powerful people in the land of Persia.

Now how many times was God's name in Esther?

Zero.

And how many miracles were in Esther?

Zero.

That's right. So what does that tell us about the way God takes care of us today? Miracles don't happen today, do they? But can God still be taking care of us? How does he do that?

By blessing us

There's providence all around us. God provides for us is what that means. And he takes care of us. And so when we need something, what should we do about it?

Pray.

We should pray to God and we should beg for deliverance when we need deliverance. Does God have to have a miracle to give us deliverance?

She's shaking her head, say it.

No

No is the answer. He doesn't have to have a miracle because he's very powerful and Romans 8:28 says, all things work together for good to those who love him.

Do you love God?

Mhmm.

Do you pray to God?

Mhmm.

Would you mind praying to God right now so that we can pray with all of the ladies who are listening? Would you do that for us? And remember to think of some good things, because our God is a great God. Okay? Go ahead and pray.

Dear God, please help the women at church to be okay while they drive to the church. And please help us to please, please help me to sleep tight when I'm at home. Oh, please help No, no, no 'carey animals come in the house. Oh, please help us to sleep tight and in Jesus name, amen.

Tell God how much you love him.

God, we love you. And thank you that we got to do the book about Esther to you and Jesus name, amen.

Okay, I'm going to say thank you, Eliza Jane, for being here. Did you enjoy it?

Yes.

And, Collyanna, thank you for being here. Did you like being here?

Yes, ma'am.

If you had one thing that you would like to tell the ladies that you love about our God, what would it be? What do you love about our God?

He does everything for us. He he died on the cross for us to live and go to heaven.

That's right. He gave everything that we could go to heaven.

What would you say if you had to tell the ladies one thing that you love about God?

I'm going to say the same thing as her.

And what is it?

That he gave everything for us.

We love him because he delivered us. Where would we have to go if Jesus hadn't died on the cross?

To hell.

And we are Delivered. We don't have to go do we? Because instead of going there, where do we get to go when we get through living here?

Heaven.

And what's in heaven that you love?

Everything.

Everything. Everything that we love is in heaven, isn't it? And we'll be happy forever and ever there with our God. And we'll sing his praises, won't we? Alright, thank you for coming. I'm glad that you came.

Thank you!

Thank you!

Goodnight!