

Leaders Guide

Point Groups Fall '25

This guide is designed to give you helpful hints on preparing for and leading your group in discussion.



Fall '25

Week 5 // October 18-19

Leader Notes

- Last week I mentioned reading through the book of Esther. This week, try listening to it in the car or while you workout! I have a favorite app for listening to the bible. Use the links below to download
[iPhone:](#) [Android](#)
- Note on Prayer. Check out the Tips on Group Prayer at the end of this Leader's Guide.
- Take the time to check in on one of your members this week. Text them "just because"

Attendance

- Make sure you take the time to get your attendance in! We can't love our people well if we don't know where they are... If you're having trouble, please let us know.
mblakeslee@pointharbor.com

Upcoming Events

Any info can be found @pointharbor.com/events

- **OCT 18th – Beauties Feast**
Hey ladies—this day is for you! Beauty's!
It's happening right here at Point Harbor, and we'd love for you to come! Bring a friend, register early, and get ready for an afternoon of encouragement, connection, and plenty of joy. (Lunch is included!) *Event is for all ladies 18+*
- **October 26th – Trunk or Treat**
Join us for a fun-filled evening at our Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 26 from 5:30–7:30pm! Bring the whole family to enjoy a safe and festive night of getting treats from creatively decorated trunks.
- **November 1st – Men's Beast Feast**
Gear up for a men's day out at **Pastor John's farmhouse!** From **12–3:00pm**, we'll fire up the smokers and pile on the meat—plus all the classic fixings. Between bites, you can jump into yard games, swap stories, and enjoy the outdoors with other guys from Point Harbor.

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Warm Up

Stick to one “Warm Up” question this week; the “Know It” section is a little longer than normal. Like previous weeks, make sure you’re thinking about who you have in the room, and you call on people strategically.

When has something not gone the way that you expected? How did you respond?

What’s the most significant risk you’ve ever taken that required faith?

Know It

Take the time to read the passages before answering the questions.

Read Esther 4:10–17.

What emotions do you imagine Esther was feeling when Mordecai asked her to approach the king? What details from the text show her fear and her faith?

Discussion Tip: Remember – Esther was backed into a corner. If she doesn’t say anything, her people are doomed. If she goes into the king, she’ll die. That’s a tough place to be. Please take the opportunity to talk through what it feels like to be backed into a corner.

Read 2:21–23 and 3:1–6.

How does the author show that God is working behind the scenes even though His name is never mentioned? What patterns of “coincidence” or timing stand out to you?

Answer:

1. Mordecai “just happens” to overhear a plot against the king (2:21–23).

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2. Esther “just happens” to be chosen as queen, positioning her for future influence (2:17).
3. The king forgets to reward Mordecai immediately — a delay that later becomes crucial (6:1–3).
4. Haman’s pride and timing bring about his own downfall (7:9–10).
5. The sleepless night of the king (6:1) leads directly to Mordecai’s honor and Esther’s opportunity.
6. Esther’s courage and timing in approaching the king align perfectly with the turning point in the story (5:1–3).

In Esther 4:13–14, Mordecai tells Esther that deliverance will come from another place if she stays silent. What does this statement reveal about Mordecai’s faith in God’s providence?

Discussion Tip: Move your group toward discussing Mordecai’s faith in God at this point in the story. Mordecai is speaking to the “first-string savior”—the person who, from a human standpoint, has the best chance to fix everything. Yet he tells Esther that even if she stays silent, he’s confident God will still come through. Invite your group to wrestle with this: How often have we watched “our best chance” slip away and assumed God wouldn’t come through after all? Mordecai’s words remind us that *our most logical or visible options don’t limit God’s faithfulness*.

Interesting Thought: If you have time, ask your group if they think Mordecai’s faith grew from Esther chapter 1 to this part of the narrative because he was able to watch God provide for his niece. Could be an interesting conversation!

Live It

When did you feel like God “let you down,” only to realize later that He was still working? How does Esther’s story reshape your perspective on God’s silence or timing?

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Discussion Tip: Don't shy away from people feeling "let down" by God. The biblical truth is that we aren't let down by God, but we know that our feelings don't always line up with truth. Walk through why they felt that way and what they have seen happen or what they are currently experiencing that points to God working.

Esther risked everything to obey God's call, saying, "If I perish, I perish." What might it look like for you to live with that kind of faith and courage right now?

Modernize it: It is unlikely that anyone in your group will die if they step out in obedience to the Lord. But many of us have "worst-case scenarios" trumped up in our heads. Talk through them, and depending on the makeup of your group, allow members to discuss the truth of the situations presented.

Where might God be asking you to trust His hidden hand rather than visible results? What step of obedience could you take this week, even if you don't yet see how it ends?

Leadership Tip: Help your group understand that even small things, like praying daily or reaching out for help with a difficult situation, are just as valid as the "big ones."

How can your Point Group pray for you regarding what was discussed this week?

Prayer Tip: People LOVE praying for "guidance" and "wisdom" but often don't really know what it is that they are asking God for. Encourage your group to be specific by asking "What would an answer to that prayer look like for you?"

TIPS ON GROUP PRAYER

Prayer is an important part of being in a Life Group. Over the years, we've found that group prayer goes better when we follow three simple guidelines.

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WE PRAY FOR ONE TOPIC AT A TIME - Anyone in the group is free to introduce a prayer request, either before prayer begins or during prayer

time. Once a topic is introduced, the group focuses on that request alone. Once it's covered, the group moves on to the next topic.

PRAY MORE THAN ONCE - Because the group is focusing on one topic at a time, each person is encouraged to pray several times during the prayer

time for those topics they feel most led to pray about. No one is required to pray.

WE KEEP OUR PRAYERS SHORT AND SIMPLE - Group prayer goes better when members keep their prayers short and to the point. When someone

prays for a long time, it's hard for the other members to stay focused, and long prayers tend to intimidate those who are just learning to pray out

loud in a group. No one is required to pray out loud.