



## WEEK #2: THE VOICE OF A LEADER.

### INTRODUCTION

Have you ever felt silenced? Like you aren't allowed to say what's on your mind? Maybe you feel pressure from the culture to fall in line and agree? Or maybe it's pressure at home or at work? Speaking freely might mean you're mocked for what's important to you. Maybe you're starting to think that if no one else thinks the way you do the way you're thinking is wrong. No. The pressures that try to hold you back may not go away, but you weren't made to live with a spirit of fear. Maybe it's time for you to Speak Out!

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What comes to mind when you hear the word "*leader*"? Do you see yourself as a leader? Why or why not?
2. When you hear the words, "*good leader*", who comes to mind? Perhaps a famous leader from history? Or maybe someone who has directly impacted your life personally? What about them do you consider to have made them good leaders?
3. As Pastor Stephen shared the story of Esther, he said that "*Esther spoke out on behalf of others, not just herself.*" Do you think that is an important character trait for a leader? Why or why not? Do you know any leaders who lead that way?
4. Pastor Stephen said that "*servant leadership is the only kind of leadership*"? What do you think about that statement? Do you think it's hard to be a servant leader in our culture today?
5. Esther spoke out, even when it could have cost her. Esther 4:16 says, "*...When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.*" As you think about being the kind of leader that would *speak out*, even if it costs you, do you think you can be that leader? What are the biggest obstacles you might face in your life as you strive to lead in that way?
6. What was your biggest takeaway from the message, and why?

### SCRIPTURE & TAKEAWAYS

Esther 1:8, 2:2-4, 2:5-8, 3:5-6, 4:10-11, 4:14, 4:16 / John 13:3-5.

*"Servant leadership is the only kind of leadership."*

*"We need leaders today who believe that virtue signaling is not enough."*