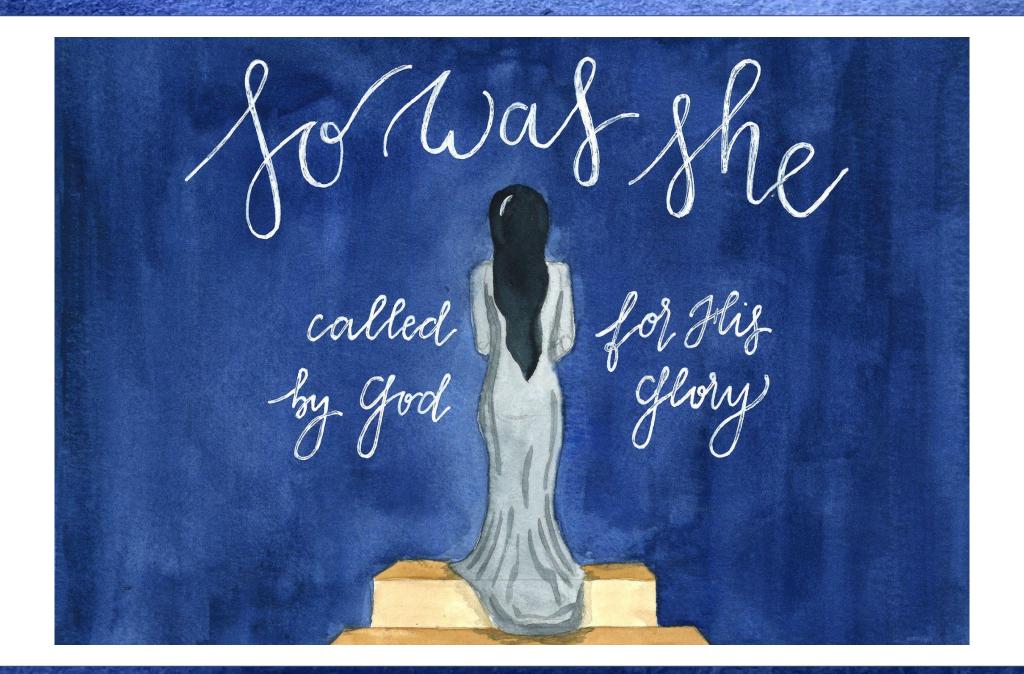


# HANERIAN CCS LADIES BIBLE STUDY





- Jewish name: Hadassah; Persian name: Esther
- 4 years from Vashti's exile to Esther's reign
- More than 400 girls in "beauty contest"
- Queen Vashti & Esther trading places



#### What is a eunuch?

- A castrated man who guarded the harem
- Teacher and advisor to the women
- Servant to the king
- Hebrew "saris" translates to eunuch or royal official

#### What is a harem?

- Place in the king's palace where wives lived
- Wives were together, but secluded
- Segregated from the world, could never leave
- Queen → Wives → Concubines





Why did Mordecai instruct Esther not to reveal her Jewish heritage?

Esther Chapter 2 Verse 10

#### What about Mordecai?

- Compassionate
- Palace official
- Shrewd

"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be

shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves."

Matt. 10:16

#### The process of becoming Queen

- Exiled Jewess
- Virgin in the harem
- Concubine/Wife
- Favorite: Queen



Virgins assembled a second time - Esther 2:19

- Marks a point in time
- Fulfill the King's lust
- Warning to women throughout the kingdom



## Mordecai at the King's Gate

- Prophets cried out
- Judges adjudicated
- King's decrees read
- Business transacted



#### Esther: Daughter of Favor - Review

- Vashti and Esther trade places
- Esther is shown favor in the palace
- Concealed Jewish heritage
- Shrewdness and Innocence foil a plot

God's Favor is Evident Every Step of the Way



#### Lessons from Esther 2:8-23

- Obedient to authority
- Loveable to everyone
- Humble to a fault

Luke 14:11 - The humble will be exalted





Esther was called by God for His glory.

Right now I hear God calling me to .

