

ESTHER

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

Sermon Title: The Power of Holidays

Key Scripture: Esther 9:20-10:3

Date: October 3, 2021

Holidays have power to ...

- 1) ... **Build** stronger communities.
- 2) ... Put faith into **action**.
- 3) ... **impart** values.
- 4) ... Help us **remember** God's work.

Which holiday will I evaluate? _____

How do I currently celebrate? _____

What adjustments can I make to our holiday celebration to 1) Build community, 2) Put faith in action, 3) impart godly values, 4) remember God's work.

Scripture to Pray

Psalm 111:1-4

"Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them. Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful."

From the Resources

““The Jewish response to trauma is counterintuitive and extraordinary. You defeat fear by joy. You conquer terror by collective celebration. You prepare a festive meal, invite guests, give gifts to friends. While the story is being told, you make a rumbustious noise as if not only to blot out the memory of Amalek, but to make a joke out of the whole episode.”

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

The Therapeutic Joy of Purim
- March 1, 2015