**You're It!**
It's a simple process to decide which person will be singled out to capture others in the classic game of tag. One person quickly shouts out "not it" followed by everyone else that wants to play. The last person saying "not it" is...you guessed it, they're "It!"

In life, when we become "It" we have some big choices. If we choose to do things our own seemingly best way it usually involves disobeying God's commands, demanding that God come into agreement with our ways, and despairing by assuming that God isn't answering our prayers (the way we want them answered).

Imagine how Esther must have felt when she was told that she was "It". If she didn't speak up to the king and courageously put her life in grave danger, a nation would be destroyed. Her older cousin Mordecai sent this desperate message to her in Esther 4:14, "For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?"

Hear Esther's response to Mordecai in Esther 4:15-16, "Go gather together all the Jews...and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish." Do you hear the desperation in her voice? She was prepared to surrender everything, even her own life, for the sake of her people.

**So what if**we study the life of Esther and follow that example by fasting and praying that God will intervene and show us His perspective realizing our own limitations. **What if**we were to listen to the godly wisdom affirmed by the Holy Spirit. **What if**we were to trust that God is in control and that we are not. **What if**we were to obey and walk through very difficult things knowing that He is faithful to lead us through.

The Life Application Study Bible puts it this way, "We treasure security, even though we know that security in life carries no guarantees---possessions can be destroyed, beauty fades, and relationships can be broken. Real security, then, must be found beyond this life. Only when our security rests on God and his unchanging nature can we face the challenges that life is sure to bring our way. How much security lies in your possessions, position or reputation? God has not placed you in your present position for your own benefit. He put you there to serve him. As in Esther's case, this may involve risking your security. Are you willing to let God be your ultimate security?"

You may find yourself in a "for such a time is this" season. It's dramatic and life altering for sure! In those moments all the decisions matter and will be a time when you need to call in support of others praying and fasting for you. Allow the Lord and His people to guide you through. Afterwards, you too will be able to give testimony of what God has done.

If we have not met, I want you to know that I walked into this church 26 years ago with a 5 year old daughter and a 2 month old son in tow. This church embraced me but bigger than that the gospel and what God did in my life changed this ordinary girl forever! And I know He will do the same for you! He will! Enjoy church, the SPF ministry and this SPF newsletter. Allow yourself to get excited about what God has in store for you and your children.

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