

# Fathers & Daughters

## in the Biblical Tradition



### *Session Five:* Raised to be Bold Esther 4

- 1. Talkback with Pastor Stacy** - Do you recognize Esther's "people-pleasing" tendency early in the larger narrative? What do you think causes her initial "No!" in chapter four to become a Yes? What relationships in your own life have helped you move from being a people-pleaser to being a bold advocate for God's will?
- 2. Father's Day** - Describe the range of emotions which Mordecai may have experienced as the drama of Esther 4 unfolds. Do you think his motivation as (1) a father and (2) a man of God were in *conflict* or in *concert* here? Can you recall any similar father-daughter episodes from your own life?
- 3. Go Deeper** - Discuss the "Who knows" idiom in 4:14, a Hebrew phrase which seem to open up possibility (cf. II Samuel 12:22, Jonah 3:9). Do you hear it as an expression of confidence, or surrender, or ... what? When has a "Who knows" measure of faith helped you overcome a particularly strenuous challenge?