

## 7/1/18 | At the Movies: Part One



*"Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand."* —Ephesians 6:13 | NIV

1. What sacrifices do you make for others in your life?
2. How do challenges cause you to get stuck and discouraged, or do you see them as an opportunity to grow and move forward?
3. How do you form your own convictions? Is your process informed by your understanding of the Bible? How do you resolve the tensions of professional responsibilities and your beliefs?
4. Queen Esther was faced with her pivotal moment when she found out her people, the Jews, were to be killed under the King's orders. Challenged by her uncle Mordecai that she might have been made queen for a time like this when her people were in peril, she is faced with a decision. Esther must decide if she will intervene for her people. She could have stayed in the palace, led her privileged life and let them be killed, but she didn't. She chose to have courage and says ultimately, "If I perish, I perish" (Esther 4:16).

Share a moment in your life when everyone told you to take the easy route, but you felt God was calling you to make a different choice.

5. READ Proverbs 29:25. To what degree do you struggle with allowing the opinions of others to have more influence on your decisions than what you know to be right? What are some ways we can combat this tendency towards people-pleasing?

6. READ Ephesians 6:13. When is a time recently when your convictions were tested? What happened, and what did you do?
  
7. READ 1 Samuel 17:48. What do you need to run towards and “fight for”?
  
8. READ Galatians 5:22-24. What battles are you facing currently? Which ones do you need to fight, and which ones can you let go of?
  
9. READ 2 Corinthians 4:16-17. What would happen to your life if instead of running from your problems, you chose to stand with faith and committed to trusting God to handle the results and the outcome?

**TAKE AWAY:** Where do you need to stand?