

When Things Get Bad Esther 4:1-17

- I. Don't use prophecy as an excuse for passivity (v. 1)

- II. Prayerfully seek human resolution where possible (vv.1-2)

- III. Call others to prayer (v. 3)

- IV. Do not deal simply with symptoms (v. 4)

- V. Get the facts (v. 5-9)

- VI. Weigh the options but don't be driven by uncertainties (vv. 10-14)

- VII. While you should not be driven by circumstances (v. 11), you should seek to understand what your role in God's providence might be (v. 14)

- VIII. Remember that God ordinarily uses people and other means to achieving goals (4:14), but He does this for our blessing, not because He needs us (v. 14)

- IX. Make a Plan (v. 16)

- X. Be willing to prayerfully take risks (v. 16)

- XI. Wisdom is given to those with reverence (Prov. 9:10), humility (Prov. 11:2), teachableness (Prov. 9:9; 15:31; 19:20), diligence (Prov. 8:17), uprightness (Prov. 2:7) and faith (James 1:5-8)