



Part 1: The One Who Was Promoted

INTRODUCTION

What does it mean to live an extraordinary life? Does it mean that you accomplish the big things, get recognized for the heroic actions, or stand before millions of people to accept an award? Perhaps sometimes, yes, this is true. But it is also equally true that some of the most extraordinary people who have walked this earth are those who operate behind the scenes. They aren't the ones clamoring for accolades or recognition. Their names are not the ones plastered on the front headlines of the newspaper. Even without all of that, the impact they have on the lives of others is unquantifiable. But this is true of people in our current spheres, but also in biblical times. This week, we are taking stock of the life of Mattias.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Have you ever heard of Jesse Heiman before today? What do you think about his life? Would you characterize it as extraordinary?
2. Who has been an extraordinary person in your life? How would you characterize him/her? What impact did s/he have on your life?
3. Mattias demonstrated two characteristics that made his life extraordinary – faithfulness and perseverance. His faith was tested as he cared for those Jews that chose Jesus and yet, he did not give up. Is there someone in your life who has preserved and shown faithfulness during life's hardest "oh no" moments? What impact did that have on you and your faith?
4. How has God used the "oh no" moments in your life? How have you matured, developed, and inspired others?

THIS WEEK

Reflect over the "oh no" moments of your life. Are you currently in a season of an "oh no" moment? Spend some time praying, asking God to use it until He removes it from your life.

"Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing."

James 1:2-4