In Nicaragua, the Esther dessert party for missionaries and the dinners for the leaders at Hogar Hebron home for children were met with tears by some and by words like "Beautiful.....I didn't know He loved me so much....I have never experienced anything like this."

We are finding that after the Esther Retreats and Feasts, the Bride of Christ is strengthened and encouraged in her Bridegroom and other believers. She (the church) can arise, strengthened and established in Christ, and go into the world knowing His great love for her and able to share His love with others.

"Therefore, strengthen the hands that are weak and the knees that are feeble, and make straight paths for

vour feet, so that the limb which is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed. Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled." (Hebrews 12:12-13)



Come and feast at His table!



Esther Feasts and Retreats Worldwide



"And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?" Esther 4:14b

Esther Retreats and Prayer Conferences

Laborers in many countries are tired, weary, and sometimes discouraged. The Lord is giving Praying Friends the opportunity to share encouragement with these through the story of Esther. The focus of the Esther Retreat and Feast is to give believers time to meet with God through directed study, hear from Him, and be strengthened by Him and by the Body of Christ. The study, based on the book of Esther, covers the following:

- God as covenant-keeping God poured out His lovingkindness upon His people, and He still desires to do that today.
- Mordecai and Esther were gatekeepers for their people and desired to walk in God's plans for them (Jeremiah 29). God has plans for His people now, which we are to seek.
- God's people prayed and fasted. God calls us to pray and fast (from man's things and toward His things).
- Esther asked for favor from the King and the Lord moved His heart to give favor—life for Esther and her people. We can ask in prayer for favor and mercy from God today.
- God in His favor allowed His people to protect themselves, and provided for them while, at the same time, He defeated the enemy. He desires to spiritually protect and provide for His people today.
- Esther proclaimed the feast (Purim) to be established so that God's people would continue to feast in His presence and have time to be with Him and thank Him for His lovingkindness. We as God's people can have feasts to come into His presence, worship Him, and give Him thanksgiving for what He has done. Then we can leave this time to share with others the lovingkindness He has shown us (Esther 9:17; 10:3).

At Esther feasts and retreats Praying Friends of the Bridegroom finds John 3:29 occurring. The Lord is speaking and His friends are hearing His voice and are filled with joy. Filled with His Spirit, believers are renewed and refreshed in the Word and go and do what He is has said. As God's Word speaks, His friends are hearing His voice, receiving faith and much joy.

Vision

Picture many across the globe feasting with their Bridegroom, The room is filled with great exuberance in being with the Lord and the light of His presence permeates everything. The people are honoring the Lord and thanking Him for the great pleasure He is giving them. They are delighting in His presence. Tears come as God's children know they are cherished and loved and He has a special place for them in His heart. He is dwelling in the praises of His people. Esther banquets or feasts of destiny are times to make a statement of faith in God. In Israel, God brought together believers of Muslim and Jewish backgrounds to a time of retreat and feasting together with Him, celebrating the Lord and His goodness and lovingkindness.

Picture many around the world having communion with the Lord, the Lord breaking bread with His people. His Word is what they are hearing...faith comes by hearing and hearing from the Word of God.

Envision the Body of Christ walking with Her Bridegroom and being His Bride for the world to know firsthand His love, forgiveness, and blessing. We ask that the Lord would walk among the feasts as He walked among the churches in Revelation and bring His light to His people. We ask that the Lord as Jehovah Nissi—Lord Victorious would fly the banner of love over His people. PFOTBG desires to take believers in various countries to a place of retreat where they can be in God's presence and have His living water poured out upon them, so that He then can then pour out living water through them (John 4 and 6).

> "The afflicted and needy are seeking water, but there is none, and their tongue is parched with thirst; I, the Lord, will answer them Myself, as the God of Israel I will not forsake them. I will open rivers on the bare heights and springs in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water and the dry land fountains of water. I will put the cedar in the wilderness, the acacia and the myrtle and the olive tree; I will place the juniper in the desert. (Isaiah 41:17-19)



Esther Retreats and Conferences offer believers time to be alone with God and hear His words to them, directed time with Scriptures to ponder, promises of God to pray, and time with other believers for sharing, teaching, and praying.



The retreat/conference can include any of the following areas or other subjects as desired:

- spiritual warfare
- prayer journaling
- prayer walking
- binding and loosing
- ruling and reigning with Christ

The team desires to

- pray with individuals, families, and small groups, going wherever the Lord leads,
- share and pray towards the goals of healing, restoration and, where it is needed, reconciliation with the Lord and with others so that God's people can bless those who have cursed them and pray for those who have persecuted them.





The Lord desires for His body to receive many blessings from Him so that the laborers can return to their field with a renewed vision concerning what the Lord has for them and the ways to accomplish this through His words to them.

Praying Friends of the Bridegroom desires to pour out Christ's love as He pours out His Spirit upon His body (See Colossians 2:1-3). In the Esther Retreats and Feasts we are finding the Lord meets with His people and speaks His words of love to them. He gives His children understanding of the plans He has for them, the promises He still wants to fulfill, and the role they are to take. The Lord is pouring out His presence, cleansing and healing the land and the people.



The Esther Feast, part of the Esther Retreat and Conference, is to give God's workers a feast like Esther would have hosted—a feast for the eyes, ears, heart, soul, and body. We desire to bless them with a time of worship, testimonies, or short teaching/sharing from the Word; prayer for them; and small gifts.



2 feasts in Esther

• Feast One is the forum for Esther in the presence of her enemy and the enemy of the Jews, Haman. "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; My cup overflows...with your goodness, mercy, and lovingkindness." (Psalm 23:5)

Feast One is a forum for Esther to present her case for her life and for her people to have life? What is your forum and what is the case the Lord is asking you to present to Him?

• Feast Two is the Feast of Purim to celebrate the deliverance of the Jews and to celebrate Jesus as our Deliverer. It is time to meet with our bridegroom in a beautiful setting and worship Him. The feast is



time to celebrate that Jesus is our and soon coming King. This feast can be seen as a precursor to the Wedding feast of the Lamb.