

## 1. Opening Prayer

## 2. Intro: Narrative Approach

What is narrative? Narrative refers to the story being told. It is the account of events, experiences, and details. It also refers to the story-telling process. How the story is being told by a narrator includes the intention of how the narrator wants the readers to understand the story.

([www.literaryterms.net](http://www.literaryterms.net))

Examples) The Gospels talk about Jesus but each Gospel has a different narrative.

Narrative Approach is the way to find out how a narrator wants the story to be understood.

Three Factors of Narrative Approach: Setting, Characters, and Plot.

- a. Setting contributes to the narrative atmosphere.  
Space, Time, and Society
- b. Characters cause an incident.  
One-dimensional character is simply described without changes.  
Multi-dimensional character is described with complex facets, thus expect changes.  
Main characters, antagonists, supporting characters, and minor characters.
- c. Plot is the combination of incidents in the narrative.  
Unified plot combines the incidents in cause-and-effect links or in the order of time.  
Episodic plot has each episode independently but readers can understand the story.  
Plot of resolution focuses on “What will happen?”  
Plot of revelation focuses on the characters and meanings of the incidents.

With this narrative approach, how shall we understand the story of Esther?

## 3. Read Esther Ch. 5 and 6

#### 4. Discussion

- a. How is Esther changed from the previous chapters?
- b. In verse 3, the king asked to Esther, “What is your request?” Why do you think Esther didn’t ask for help at this point?
- c. Why do you think Esther asked for the second banquet instead of asking for help?
- d. The last part of Ch. 5 tells of Haman. Can you make a comparison between Esther and Haman?
- e. How is the narration going in chapter 5? Talk about the transition of spatial settings. What do you see in each spatial setting?

#### 5. Closing Prayer