

UNIT 10, SESSION 3

# ESTHER

BOOK OF ESTHER

## KEY POINTS

God is always at work, even when we don't see Him. • God uses ordinary people for amazing things.

## BIG PICTURE QUESTION

When is God at work? **God is always at work!**

## MEMORY VERSE

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. **Matthew 5:14**



## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

This week, we're reminded of an important truth: God uses ordinary people to accomplish His extraordinary plans. Esther was not a queen when her story began. She was an ordinary Jewish girl living in a foreign land while her people were in danger. Yet God placed her exactly where she needed to be for a very important purpose.

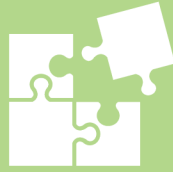
Esther faced a frightening choice: speaking up for her people could cost her life, but if she stayed silent, the Jewish people would be massacred. But she trusted God's plan more than her own safety. God gave her courage, and through her obedience, many lives were saved.

Genesis 50:20 reminds us of a powerful truth: What others intend for harm, God can use for good. God was working behind the scenes in Esther's life, just as He works in ours today. Nothing is wasted in God's hands. He is always working to accomplish His good purposes.

Esther was willing to risk her life to save her people. Her courage points us to someone even greater—Jesus Christ. Jesus didn't just risk His life; He willingly gave His life so we could be saved from sin and have eternal life. Esther's story reminds us that God rescues His people, and His greatest rescue came through Jesus.

God placed Esther where she needed to be, and He has placed you exactly where you are for a reason. This week, remember that the children in your class may be small, but God's plans for them are not. As you teach Esther's story, help them understand that God loves them, has a plan for them, and can use them too. Your faithfulness is part of His beautiful story.

# WELCOME & OPENING



Connect with children as service starts.

## WELCOME

Play music through the undercabinet radio (flash drive), or connect your phone to Bluetooth through the radio and play Christian preschool/Bible songs as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

## MEMORY VERSE SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of “This Little Light of Mine”:

You are the light of the world.  
A city on a hill  
cannot be hidden.  
Matthew 5:14

*Repeat 2x*

## THE LORD’S PRAYER/TEN COMMANDMENTS

**Toddlers & Twos:** Use the provided poster to review the Lord’s Prayer with the children in your class.

**Threes & Fours:** Using the provided poster, review the Ten Commandments with the children in your class. Read through each one, then have children repeat after you as you say them together.

# CRAFT



Help children with a craft connected to the lesson.

## CRAFT: PAPER CROWN

Give each child a paper crown template, jewel stickers, and crayons/markers. Let them decorate their crown for a few minutes, then help them tape the crown together!

As you work, tell or retell today's Bible lesson about Esther.





## BABIES & TWOS BIBLE LESSON

Esther was a beautiful girl. She lived with her cousin Mordecai. The king of Persia married Esther, and she became the queen. Haman worked for the king. He made everyone bow down to him. Mordecai refused to bow down. He would only bow down to God.

Haman was furious. He asked the king to kill the Jewish people. Mordecai asked Esther to help. Esther was afraid. The king didn't know she was a Jew. Esther prayed and fasted for three days, then went to see the king. Esther trusted God. God used her to save His people. The king gave Haman's job to Mordecai. All the Jewish people celebrated because God had saved them!

## THREES & FOURS BIBLE LESSON

The King of Persia wanted a new wife. His adviser, Haman, told him to look all over the land and find the most beautiful women. Esther was a beautiful girl who lived with her cousin Mordecai. When the king's servants saw Esther's beauty, they told her to come to the palace. She married the king.

Haman thought he was very important. He made a law that everyone should bow down to him. Mordecai refused to bow down. He would only bow down to God. Haman was furious. He asked the king for permission to kill all of the Jewish people.

When Mordecai heard about Haman's evil plan, he sent Esther a message asking her to help. Esther was afraid. Esther was not allowed to see the king whenever she wanted. Plus, the king didn't know she was Jewish. Esther prayed and fasted for three days, then went to see the king.

Esther asked the king to spare the Jewish people, and the king listened! Esther trusted God, and God used her to save His people. The king gave Haman's job to Mordecai. All the Jewish people celebrated because God had saved them!

**KEY POINTS:** God is always at work, even when we don't see Him. • God uses ordinary people for amazing things.

# SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning.

## SNACK & DISCUSSION

**Have everyone wash their hands, then serve a snack. Ask the following questions and retell parts of the lesson as needed.**

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible lesson?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible lesson?
3. Who did God use to help save His people?
4. When is God at work? **God is always at work!**

## CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Sing the clean up song. Have children help put toys on tables.

Gather them on the rug in a circle and have one volunteer read today's Bible lesson from the children's Bible. Have a regular Bible ready as well.

Sing the "B.I.B.L.E." and "Everything in the Bible is Absolutely True" songs. Remind children that the Bible is God's Word and the most important book in the whole world!

The other volunteer should stand at the door and help with pick up, matching stickers, gathering children's things, etc.

## BEFORE YOU GO...

**Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:**

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
2. Spot sweep if needed.
3. Return toys to closet, close door.
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room.
5. Return binders to the cabinet.

**THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!**