

Esther the Brave Queen

UPPER ELEMENTARY LESSON

Theme: God is always at work behind the scenes.

Scripture: Esther 4:14

Memory Verse: "And who knows, maybe you have been chosen to be the queen for 'such a time as this.'" Esther 4:14b

Get Ready: Click [here](#) to get your complete supply list for this lesson.

The Children's Sermon

You'll Need:

- A hero cape

Do This:

SAY: **Who is your favorite superhero?** (Let children respond as you put on the cape.)

Our lesson today is about Esther, a beautiful young Jewish woman who became a queen and saved her people from being destroyed by an evil enemy. I think she would definitely fit into the category of Super Hero.

In today's lesson, we meet a mighty king named Xerxes. King Xerxes wanted to find a new queen, so he held a big contest to choose the most wonderful woman in the kingdom. Among all the women, a young Jewish woman named Esther was chosen

to be the new queen. But Esther had a secret—she was Jewish, and she didn't tell anyone because her cousin Mordecai, who took care of her after both of her parents died, told her to keep it a secret.

Now, in the king's palace, there was a man named Haman. Haman was very important and powerful, but he had a big problem—he was very proud. Haman wanted everyone to bow down to him, but Mordecai, Esther's cousin, refused to bow. This made Haman very angry. So angry, in fact, that he made a terrible plan to hurt all the Jewish people in the kingdom.

When Mordecai found out about Haman's evil plan, he sent a message to Esther, asking her to help. Esther was scared because talking to the king without being invited could be very dangerous. But Mordecai told her, "Who knows? Maybe you were made queen for just such a time as this!" So, Esther decided to be brave.

Esther prayed and asked God for help. Then she invited the king and Haman to a special dinner. At the dinner, Esther told the king all about Haman's plan and revealed that she was Jewish. The king was very surprised and very angry at Haman for trying to hurt Esther and her people.

Because of Esther's courage, the king stopped Haman's evil plan, and the Jewish people were saved.

ASK:

- What can we learn from Esther's story?

We learn that being brave and doing the right thing is very important, even when it's hard. Esther trusted God and stood up to help her people. You too can be brave and kind, just like Esther, by trusting God and helping others whenever you can.

PRAY: Dear God, thank you for the story of Esther. Help us to be brave and kind, and to trust in you no matter what. Give us the courage to do the right thing and help others, just like Esther did. Amen.

Bible Memory Verse

"And who knows, maybe you have been chosen to be the queen for 'such a time as this.' " Esther 4:14b

You'll Need:

- Bibles - 1 per child
- Jumbo craft sticks
- Fine-tip markers

Do This:

Lead kids in these steps:

- Invite one child to read Esther 4:14b out loud to the class.
- Give each child 10 jumbo craft sticks and a fine-tip marker.
- Invite kids to turn to Esther 4:14b in their Bibles and write 1-3 words from today's memory verse on each jumbo craft stick.
- Have them jumble up their sticks, then practice putting them in order.
- Do this several times as time allows. Invite kids to remove a craft stick each time they get the order correct.
- Encourage kids to take their craft sticks home and continue practicing today's Bible memory verse, so they can always have the courage to be brave like Esther.

ASK:

- How did Esther show she was brave?
- How did Esther's bravery help her people?
- Who can you talk to when you need to be brave?

SAY: Great job learning today's Bible memory verse! Esther had to be brave in order to save the people she loved from the evil Haman. Let's learn more about that now.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- A Bible
- Jumbo craft sticks - 3 per child
- Markers

Do This:

Lead kids in these steps:

- Read the summary of Esther from today's Children's Sermon out loud to the class.
- Give each child 3 jumbo craft sticks and invite them to draw Esther, King Xerxes, and Haman on each of the 3 sticks.

SAY: Today we're learning that in order to save her people from Haman, Esther had to be brave.

- Explain that you're going to read today's Bible passage again. This time, kids will use their craft stick puppets to act out the passage as you read it out loud.

SAY: Being brave isn't always easy. For Queen Esther, it meant life or death for her and her people. But when we follow Jesus, He makes us brave, and we can give Him all the glory.

ASK:

- Have you ever been chosen for a special job like Esther?
- Tell about someone you know who is brave.
- Why is it important to speak up for what is right, even if it's scary?

Esther the Brave Queen

You'll Need:

- ["Esther the Brave Queen"](#) video lesson
- Something to play the video

Do This:

Show the video.

ASK:

- Why is it important to be brave like Esther?
- Tell about a time when you had to be brave.
- How did Esther prepare herself to be brave and talk to the king?

Brave + Bejeweled Bites

You'll Need:

- **Sugar cookies - 1 per child**
- **Spray whipped cream**
- **Blueberries**
- **Napkins**
- **Plates**

Get Ready: Have kids wash their hands before the snack.

Do This:

Follow these steps to enjoy the “Brave + Bejeweled” Snacks:

- Give each child a plate, a napkin and a sugar cookie.
- Spray whipped cream on the outside rim of each sugar cookie, then invite kids to bejewel their cookie with blueberries to look like a crown.
- Enjoy.

ASK:

- **What do you think of when you think of bravery?**
- **What can you do if you feel scared but need to be brave?**
- **How can we help others be brave when they are feeling scared?**

SAY: Even Esther the Queen found herself facing something really big and really scary. When we come across circumstances that feel too big to face on our own, we have God right alongside us every step of the way. We can be brave like Esther because God makes us brave.

Virtual Lesson Tip

You can do this activity with the entire family.

Let My People Go

You'll Need:

- A large playing area

Do This:

Follow these steps to play the "Let My People Go" game:

- Have kids line up at one end of the classroom and pick one child to be the tagger.
- Have the tagger stand in the middle of the room facing the kids.
- Explain that when you say, "Go," kids will run from one end of the room to the other and try to avoid being tagged.
- If they're tagged, they'll have to go to the designated corner.
- As the rest of the kids are running, they'll need to be brave and try to save kids who have been sent to the corner, by getting them and running to the other side of the room to safety with them (pulling them back into the game.)

ASK:

- Why did Esther need to be brave?
- How can you help your friends be brave, just like Esther helped her people?

SAY: Just like Esther was brave and found a way to save her people, God gives each of us the courage we need to be brave too.

Bold Bracelets

You'll Need:

- Elastic jewelry cord
- Assorted beads
- Letter beads
- Scissors

Get Ready: Before class, cut a piece of elastic jewelry cord for each child.

Do This:

Lead kids in the following steps to make the "Bold Bracelets" crafts:

- Give each child a piece of elastic jewelry cord.
- Invite kids to pick out letters that spell words like "Be Bold," "Be Brave," "Brave," etc.
- Have kids string assorted beads, adding each letter as they go.
- Once all of their beads are strung, help kids tie off their bracelets.
- Kids can keep their bracelets or trade them with friends.

SAY: Great job making your Bold Bracelets! Take these home and wear them as a reminder that when hard things come our way, God makes us brave if we rely on Him.

Virtual Lesson Tip

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Brave Prayers

You'll Need:

- **“Bold Bracelet” craft - 1 per child**

Do This:

Lead kids in these steps to pray:

- Invite kids to join in a small circle, each holding their “Bold Bracelet” craft.
- Ask kids to share some things they need God to make them brave for, and pray for courage in each of these things.
- Invite kids to pass their bracelets around the circle, and have kids pause and silently pray for bravery over each bracelet.
- Close in prayer.

PRAY: Dear God, thank you for making us brave like Queen Esther. Please fill our hearts with courage and make us brave for the things you call us to. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Time to Praise God

You’ll Need:

- **Song:** “My God is So Great”
[Words and Music](#) (pdf)
[MP3](#) Accompaniment Track
- **Song:** “Be Strong and of Good Courage”
[Words and Music](#) (pdf)
[MP3](#) Accompaniment Track

SAY: When we prepare our hearts for Christ, we’re able to worship even when our hearts are needing some courage. Let’s give God honor and praise now.

Lead children in singing "My God is So Great" and "Be Strong and of Good Courage."

Complete Supply List

- A hero cape
- Bibles - 1 per child
- Jumbo craft sticks
- Fine-tip markers
- Jumbo craft sticks - 3 per child
- Markers
- "Esther the Brave Queen" video lesson
- Something to play the video
- Sugar cookies - 1 per child
- Spray whipped cream
- Blueberries
- Napkins
- Plates
- A large playing area
- Elastic jewelry cord
- Assorted beads
- Letter beads
- Scissors
- "Bold Bracelet" craft - 1 per child

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AT HOME LESSON

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wanted everyone to bow down to him, but Mordecai, Esther's cousin, refused to bow. This made Haman very angry. So angry, in fact, that he made a terrible plan to hurt all the Jewish people in the kingdom.

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