# **Large Group**

#### **Ester Said Her People**

Bible Passage: Esther

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 7:10

Big Picture Question: How should we feel when we sin?

When we sin, we should feel sorry that we have disobeyed God and want to turn from our sin because we love Him.



#### Countdown Video (3 mins)

#### **Worship Song (4 mins)**

Worship Leader briefly introduces self, welcomes kids, leads 1st worship song, and prays for the time.

## Welcome (1 mins)

Large Group Leader tell kids what to expect to happen (1 minute)

- watch the lesson video
- retell the story.
- read the story from scripture

#### **Watch the Lesson Video (4 mins)**

#### **Retell the Story (11 mins)**

Lead the kids in a fun retelling of the story Here are some resources to help you formulate this time.

#### Review what we learned:

Let's look at our timeline to remember what has happened in God's big story so far. Genesis taught us about God's perfect creation. But it didn't stay perfect for very long. Sin came into the world through Adam and Eve's disobedience. Now everything is broken because of sin. Even when God made His people into the great nation of Israel and gave them His laws, they still sinned.

Even in their sin, God remained faithful. God promised that He would bring the Savior into the world through His people. In today's Bible story, God was faithful to Esther and showed that His plans to use His people for the good of others could not be stopped.

#### Today's Lesson

God's people had been taken away to Persia because of God's judgment on their sin. The king of Persia was looking for a new queen. The king chose Esther, who was a Jew, to be his queen. Did the king know Esther was a Jew? [Allow responses.] No, she did not tell him she was a Jew. Some people in Persia didn't like the Jews. Who was the man who came up with a plan to kill the Jews? [Allow responses.] Yes, Haman came up with the evil plan to kill the Jews.

Mordecai was Esther's cousin and heard about Haman's evil plan to kill God's people. He sent a message to Esther and begged her to use her position as queen to stop this evil plan.

Esther wanted to help her people, but she knew that the king could have her killed for requesting his help. Esther believed in God's power and faithfulness. What did Esther ask the Jews to do? [Allow responses.] She asked all of the Jews to fast and pray with her for three days. Esther invited the king to a feast three times in a row. What did Esther tell the king at the third feast? Read Esther 7:4. [Allow responses.] The king punished Haman and the Jews were saved.

All of these events remind us that God is in control of every situation. God put Esther in the position of queen to help His people in Persia. Even when things seem scary and out of control, we can remember that nothing surprises God. God is always in control of everything.

Christ Connection | God was in control over Haman's evil plan to destroy the Jews. Like Haman, Satan wants to ruin God's plan and destroy believers. Satan thought he had won when Jesus died on the cross, but God raised Jesus from the dead and defeated Satan once and for all. All who believe in Jesus are rescued from sin and death.

#### Read from the Bible (4 mins)

Ester 5:1-8, 7:1-6, 10; 8:5; 9:1

## Remind Kids of Four Questions (1 min)

- What did you like about today's story?
- · What did you find confusing?
- What did you learn about people?
- · What did you learn about God?

#### **Memory Verse Song (4 mins)**

Worship Leader connects the lesson to the memory verse, leads the memory verse song with hand motions, and closes in prayer.