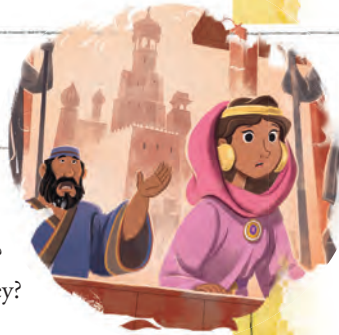


Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Share about a time you did something by faith, trusting that God is in control.
- How might God use your family to make Jesus known in your neighborhood or community?
- Identify a need your family has and pray for God to provide.

Esther Saved Her People

Esther

STORY POINT: GOD MADE ESTHER A QUEEN TO PROTECT HIS PEOPLE.

The king of Persia chose Esther to be his queen. Esther didn't tell the king that she was a Jew. One day, Mordecai heard that Haman was planning to kill all the Jews. Mordecai was upset! He was a Jew; he didn't want all the people he loved to be killed. Mordecai told Esther about Haman's evil plan. Mordecai said, "Ask the king to save the Jewish people."

"No one can approach the king unless the king calls for that person first," Esther said. "The punishment is death—unless the king holds out his scepter."

Mordecai said, "If you don't stop Haman, he will kill you too. Maybe this is why you are the queen." Esther went to the king. He held out his golden scepter. "What is it, Queen Esther?" Esther invited the king and Haman to a feast. After eating, the king said, "What do you want, Queen Esther?" Esther invited him to another feast. The next day, Haman and the king went to Esther's feast. After eating, the king said, "What do you want, Queen Esther?"

Esther spoke up, "There is a plan to kill me and my people."

The king replied, "Who is responsible for this plan?"

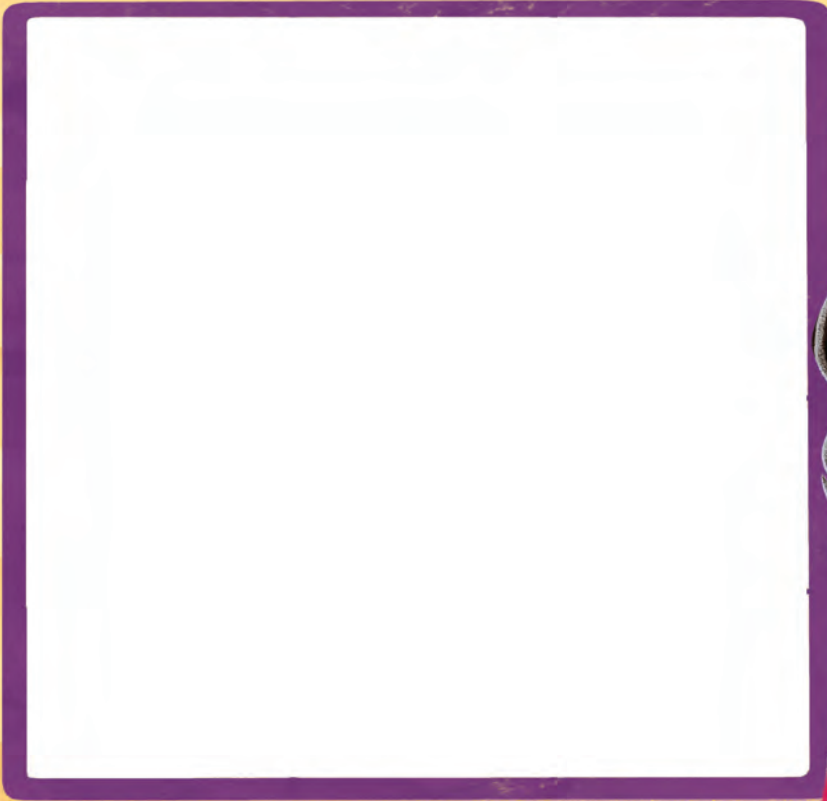
"This evil enemy—Haman!" Esther said. The king was angry! He punished Haman and made a law to keep the Jewish people safe from their enemies.

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.



FOLD

When I'm in Charge | Use the blank area to draw a portrait of yourself as a the king or queen. Then use the blank lines to write down the top three rules you would enforce in your kingdom.



_____ **'s Rules**

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____

Different Plans | Read each sentence. If the sentence is part of Haman's plan, draw a big X through it, but if the sentence is part of Esther's plan, draw a crown around it.



I will hurt the queen.

I am one of the king's most powerful leaders.

I will save my people.

I will host a feast.

I will trust God's plan.

I will send a message to Mordecai.

I want all of the Jewish people killed.

I was invited to the feast.

We will fast for three days.