

FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 31, 2020



BIBLE STORY:

Esther 3-8

BIBLE VERSE:

Psalm 27:1

BABIES-PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

Esther chose to help.

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

God used Esther to rescue His people. (YK)

God is sovereign—He rescued His people through Esther's obedience. (OK)

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

Romans 15:14-21,30-33

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

Romans 15:13

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *Romans 16:25-27*

MONDAY: *Proverbs 1:1-7*

TUESDAY: *Proverbs 1:8-19*

WEDNESDAY: *Proverbs 1:20-33*

THURSDAY: *Proverbs 2:1-22*

FRIDAY: *Proverbs 3:1-12*

SATURDAY: *Proverbs 3:13-26*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

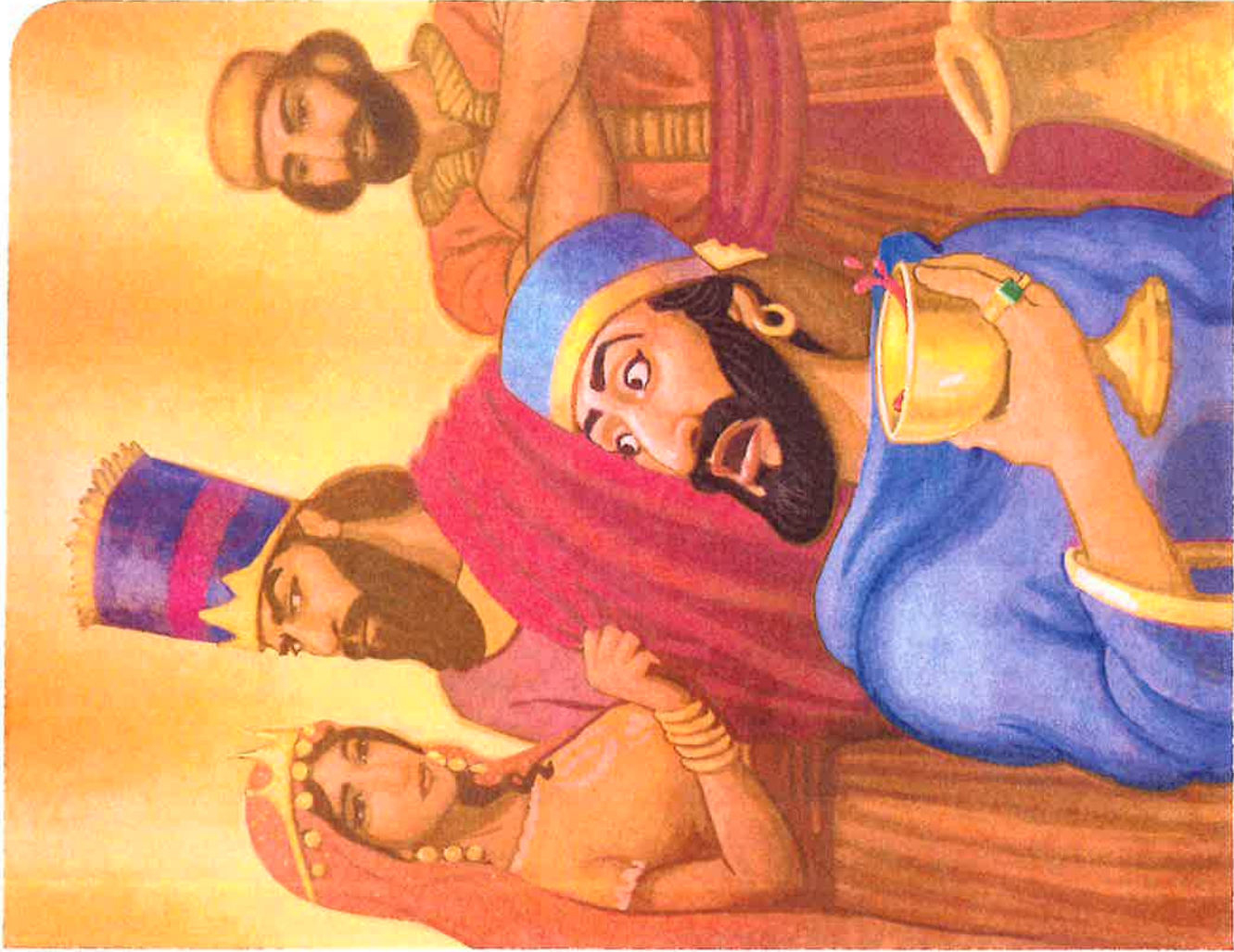
Share these points as you study *Esther* and *Romans* together as a family:



- **With power comes responsibility.** The king, the most powerful man in the country, had constant threats to his throne. A man named Haman was particularly interested in gaining a high position in the government set up in Persia. Haman however was a devious man and once he had been promoted to the second highest position in the land, the people had been ordered to bow to Haman whenever he walked by. Mordecai, the Jew, knew that no one deserved such honor apart from God, Himself. Mordecai refused to bow and angered Haman to the point that Haman sought death, not just for Mordecai, but for all the Jewish people.
- **Esther encouraged to intervene.** By this time in history, many of the Jewish people had returned to Jerusalem and were again living in the city. Haman, in his anger, convinced the king to sign a new law which set a date for the final destruction of all Jewish people. Once Mordecai heard the news, he encouraged Esther to approach the king and ask for mercy for the Jewish people.
- **Haman is invited to a party.** Knowing the consequences for approaching the king unannounced, Esther asked Mordecai to gather others to pray for Esther as she approached the king. When the king saw Esther, he extended his scepter and invited Esther to speak. Esther invited the king and Haman to two separate parties. While at the second party, Esther revealed her true heritage and named Haman as the man who sought the destruction of her people. The king sentenced Haman to death and allowed the Israelites to defend themselves against any attack.
- **Fulfill your calling.** Mordecai told Esther that God had placed her where she was for a purpose. Paul taught that, like Esther, believers should discover God's plan for them and fulfill the calling God has placed on their lives, trusting God's plan.

ESTHER HELPED HER PEOPLE

SESSION 14



Text Truth: Esther chose to help.

Bible Verse: The Lord is my light [and] stronghold. Whom should I dread? Psalm 27:1

Bible Verse Paraphrase: I will not be afraid. God will help me.

Psalm 27:1



ESTHER 3-8

A man named Haman was an important official for the king. Haman was in charge of everyone who worked for the king. Everyone obeyed Haman and did what he said because the king told the people to do that.

Haman did not like Mordecai, Queen Esther's cousin. Mordecai would not honor or bow down to Haman. This made Haman very angry. Haman made a plan to get rid of Mordecai and all the Hebrew people living in Persia.

When Mordecai heard about Haman's plan, he became afraid. Mordecai knew Haman would hurt Esther, too, because she was Hebrew.

When Esther learned the news about Haman's plan, she was not sure how she could help. But Mordecai told Esther, "You are not safe from Haman even though you are the queen. If you do not talk to the king, you and your Hebrew family will be hurt. Perhaps you are the queen just so you can help your people now!"

Esther thought about Mordecai's words. She prayed for three days and nights. Esther asked Mordecai and the Hebrew people to pray.

Then Esther went to the king and told him about the bad things Haman planned. The king stopped Haman.

Because she was brave, Esther helped her people be safe from Haman. And the king put Mordecai in charge of everything in the land.