

Esther Saves Her People

Esther is welcomed by the king



The king holds out the golden sceptre when Esther enters the court.

Esther 5:1-2

THINK ABOUT THE STORY

What happened when Esther went to the king? (Esther 5:1-2)

Esther Saves Her People

Esther 1-10

Name _____ Date _____

Read & think

READ IN ORDER

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Esther 1 | 2. Esther 2-3 |
| 3. Esther 4-5 | 4. Esther 6 |
| 5. Esther 7-8 | 6. Esther 9-10 |

MAIN POINTS

- Mordecai's good deed was written down and remembered later (Esther 2:21-23; 6:1-3).
- Esther went to ask the king for help even though entering without a call was dangerous (Esther 4:11, 16; 5:1-2).
- The gallows Haman made for Mordecai was used for Haman instead (Esther 5:14; 7:9-10).
- The Jews defended themselves and began Purim as days of joy, sharing, and gifts (Esther 8:11-13; 9:20-22).

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

1. What did Mordecai ask Esther to think about during the danger (Esther 4:13-14)?

Esther 4:13-14

2. Who was hanged on the gallows made for Mordecai (Esther 7:9-10)?

Esther 7:9-10

3. Esther could ask the king for help, even though going into his court was dangerous (Esther 4:11, 16; 5:1-2). Who might need you to ask a trusted grown-up for help?

Esther 4:11

MEMORY VERSE / Esther 4:14

Mordecai asked whether Esther had come to the kingdom at that very time. His question pressed her to consider helping her threatened people (Esther 4:13-14).

WEB

For if you remain silent now, then relief and deliverance will come to the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Who knows if you haven't come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

KJV

For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

Esther Saves Her People

Esther 1-10

Name _____ Date _____

Notes

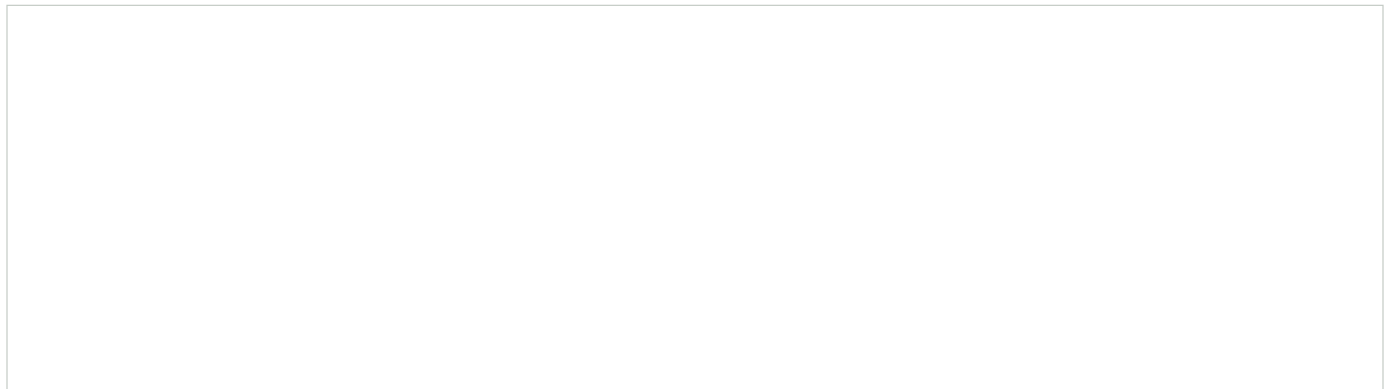
Waymark 42 / Younger children

Main verse _____ Bonus verse(s) _____

Passage or verse _____

WHAT I NOTICED

DRAW SOMETHING YOU WANT TO REMEMBER



ONE THING I WANT TO TRY

Esther Saves Her People

Esther 1-10

Name _____ Date _____

Read & think

READ IN ORDER

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Esther 1 | 2. Esther 2-3 |
| 3. Esther 4-5 | 4. Esther 6 |
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MAIN POINTS

- Mordecai's unrewarded report became decisive when the sleepless king heard the royal record (Esther 2:21-23; 6:1-11).
- Esther combined preparation, courage, careful timing, and repeated petitions as she acted for her people (Esther 4:11, 15-16; 5:1-8; 7:3-6; 8:3-6).
- Haman's scheme reversed upon him when he was hanged on the gallows prepared for Mordecai (Esther 5:14; 7:9-10; 9:25).
- The second decree authorized defense, and Purim turned the memory of danger into annual feasting, sharing, and generosity (Esther 8:8-13; 9:20-32).

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

1. How did Mordecai connect the crisis with the royal position of Esther (Esther 4:13-14)?
Esther 4:13-14
2. How was the gallows prepared for Mordecai finally used (Esther 7:9-10)?
Esther 7:9-10
3. Esther had information and access that her threatened people needed, but acting carried a real cost (Esther 4:8, 11, 13-16). Where might your access or voice give you a responsibility to help?
Esther 4:8

MEMORY VERSE / Esther 4:14

Mordecai expected deliverance to arise from another place, warned that Esther's household would not escape, and asked her to consider the timing of her royal position (Esther 4:13-14).

WEB

For if you remain silent now, then relief and deliverance will come to the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Who knows if you haven't come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

KJV

For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

Esther Saves Her People

Esther 1-10
Name _____ Date _____

Notes

Waymark 42 / Preteen

Main verse _____ Bonus verse(s) _____

Passage or verse _____

NOTES

ONE THING TO PUT INTO PRACTICE

PRAYER

Esther Saves Her People

Esther 1-10

Name _____ Date _____

Read & think

READ IN ORDER

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Esther 1 | 2. Esther 2-3 |
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MAIN POINTS

- The delayed recognition of Mordecai's service shows how a recorded act can become consequential long after it is performed (Esther 2:21-23; 6:1-11).
- Esther faced a lethal court law with communal fasting, deliberate timing, disclosure of her identity, and repeated advocacy (Esther 4:11, 15-16; 5:1-8; 7:3-6; 8:3-6).
- The narrative's central reversal returns Haman's device upon him, including the gallows prepared for Mordecai (Esther 5:14; 7:9-10; 9:25).
- Deliverance required more than Haman's removal: a second decree authorized defense, and Purim preserved the resulting rest through shared celebration and care for the poor (Esther 8:8-13; 9:20-32).

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

1. Esther never explicitly names God. How can readers discuss the story's remarkable timing and reversals while distinguishing the book's reports from theological interpretation?
Esther 2:21-23
2. What does Esther's response show about acting when the danger is real and the outcome is not guaranteed?
Esther 4:11
3. Mordecai warned Esther that her position would not exempt her from the crisis and pressed her to act (Esther 4:13-14). What access, information, or influence do you hold, and what responsible action might it require?
Esther 4:13-14

MEMORY VERSE / Esther 4:15-16

Esther asked the Jews and her maidens to fast, then chose to enter despite the law while openly accepting the risk (Esther 4:11, 15-16).

WEB

Then Esther asked them to answer Mordecai, "Go, gather together all the Jews who are present in Susa, and fast for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day. I and my maidens will also fast the same way. Then I will go in to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish."

KJV

Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer, Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.

Esther Saves Her People

Esther 1-10
Name _____ Date _____

Notes

Waymark 42 / Teen

Main verse _____ Bonus verse(s) _____

Passage or verse _____

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PRAYER

Esther Saves Her People

Esther 1-10

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MAIN POINTS

- Mordecai's unrewarded report becomes the hinge of the narrative when the royal archive is read during Ahasuerus's sleepless night (Esther 2:21-23; 6:1-11).
- Esther's advocacy unfolds through communal fasting, acceptance of legal danger, strategic delay, disclosure, and a second petition after Haman's death (Esther 4:11, 15-16; 5:1-8; 7:3-6; 8:3-6).
- Haman's device returns upon his own head, moving from the gallows prepared for Mordecai to Haman's execution and the collapse of his decree (Esther 5:14; 7:9-10; 9:25).
- The resolution distinguishes the execution of Haman from the legal answer to his writing: a second decree authorizes defense, while Purim institutionalizes rest, feasting, reciprocity, generosity, and memory (Esther 8:8-13; 9:20-32).

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

1. Esther never explicitly names God. How can readers discuss the story's remarkable timing and reversals while distinguishing the book's reports from theological interpretation?

Esther 2:21-23

2. What does Esther's response show about acting when the danger is real and the outcome is not guaranteed?

Esther 4:11

3. Esther's royal access created both danger and responsibility, and Haman's death did not end her work of petitioning (Esther 4:11, 13-16; 8:3-6). Where does your present access require informed, persistent advocacy rather than silence?

Esther 4:11

MEMORY VERSE / Esther 6:1-3

The chronicles preserved Mordecai's unrewarded report. When the sleepless king heard it as Haman arrived, he ordered Mordecai publicly honored (Esther 2:21-23; 6:1-11).

WEB

On that night, the king couldn't sleep. He commanded the book of records of the chronicles to be brought, and they were read to the king. It was found written that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs, who were doorkeepers, who had tried to lay hands on the King Ahasuerus. The king said, "What honor and dignity has been given to Mordecai for this?" Then the king's servants who attended him said, "Nothing has been done for him."

KJV

On that night could not the king sleep, and he commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king. And it was found written, that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's chamberlains, the keepers of the door, who sought to lay hand on the king Ahasuerus. And the king said, What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this? Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, There is nothing done for him.

Esther Saves Her People

Esther 1-10
Name _____ Date _____

Notes

Waymark 42 / Adult

Main verse _____ Bonus verse(s) _____

Passage or verse _____

NOTES

ONE THING TO PUT INTO PRACTICE

PRAYER
