

# ESTHER - ESTHER SAVED HER PEOPLE

## KIDS' LIFE GROUP GUIDE

WEEK: 1/26/20 - 2/1/20

### OVERVIEW:

- **Part 1:** Catch Up On Life (15 Minutes)
- **Part 2:** Kidtown Lesson Review (15 Minutes)
- **Part 3:** Reflection (15 Minutes)
  - Optional - Part 3a: Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)
  - Optional - Part 3b: Snack (5 Minutes)
  - Optional - Part 3c: Sing (5 Minutes)
- **Part 4:** Prayer Time! (20 Minutes)

### PART 1: CATCH UP ON LIFE (15 minutes)

**Setting:** Sit in a circle with kids and adults interspersed! Adults sitting amongst the kids helps everyone engage and pay attention. Parents - you are always responsible for your kids, but you're also looking to engage with other kids in your group.

- *Leader Note: If your group eats dinner with your kids, this is the best part of the guide to do together while you eat. Add 15 minutes for everyone to get their plates and start eating. Then shift into intentional conversation as the kids are starting to finish their food.*

**Vision:** God calls the church -- and our LifeGroup -- to be family! Because of this, we want our kids to know our adults and our adults to know our kids. The best way to get to know each other is to ask each other questions and tell each other about our lives.

- *Leader note: While you're getting started, have an adult -- or older kid -- read this vision statement. After you've done it for a while, you can ask kids if they remember why we ask each other questions. Help them to remember that God's making us family, so we want to get to know each other.*

#### Questions:

- 1.) What was your high and low from the week?
- 2.) **Kids Pick!** Let each kid ask the adults in the group one question.
  - Click [here](#) for a bank of questions for Kids to ask Adults if they're having a hard time thinking of any.
- 3.) **Adults Pick!** Have each adult ask the kids in the group one question.
  - Click [here](#) for a bank of questions for Adults to ask Kids if they're having a hard time thinking of any.

## PART 2: KIDTOWN LESSON REVIEW (15 minutes)

**Vision:** God uses the Bible to show Himself to us. He also uses it to help us love Him and others better. We don't only want to learn *about* the Bible; we're also called to apply it to our lives -- to change the way we think (Head), what we love and value (Heart) and what we do (Hands).

- *Leader note: While you're getting started, have an adult -- or older kid -- read this vision statement. After you've done it for a while, ask kids if they remember why we study the Bible.*

**Lesson:** Esther

**Bible Passages:** Esther

### REVIEW:

- 1.) **Kids what do you remember from the story you learned about on Sunday?** (Pause and let them think of what they can remember.)
- 2.) **Can anyone remember the main characters?**
  - God (*Leader Note: Almost always a right answer. Helps reinforce that the entire Bible is about God and points forward to Jesus*)
  - Esther, The King of Persia, Mordecai, Haman etc.
- 3.) **Ok, does anyone remember any of the story points?**

**Story Point #1:** The King chose to marry Esther but he did not know she was a Jew.  
**Story Point #2:** Haman made a plan to kill all of God's people!  
**Story Point #3:** After hearing about the plan, Esther risked her life to save God's people.
- 4.) **Awesome! And can anyone remember how this story connected to Jesus?**  
**Christ Connection:** Jesus gave up His life to save God's people from sin.

**Transition:** That was awesome! Y'all did a great job remembering. Ok let's watch the video and see if we remember anything we forgot or notice anything new this time.

### WATCH THE VIDEO STORY:

Click [here](#) to watch the Gospel Project Video Story.

### TALK THROUGH THE STORY POINTS:

*Leader Note: If your kids are younger, it helps to give them journals. For each question, have them write their answers first and then go around the circle and share.*

**Leader Note:** Say each story point and have the kids repeat it.

**Story Point #1:** The King chose to marry Esther but he did not know she was a Jew.

- Question: Why did Esther not tell the king that she was a Jew? *She might have been punished for being a Jew. Her uncle Mordecai told her not to.*
- Question: Do you think this made Esther's life easier or more difficult? *Probably much more difficult and caused her to wonder what God's plan was for her!*

## PART 2: KIDTOWN LESSON REVIEW (CONTINUED)

### Story Point #2: Haman made a plan to kill all of God's people!

- Read: Esther 3:2-6
  - Question: Why did Haman want to kill God's people? *He didn't like that Mordecai would not bow down to him.*
- Question: What did Mordecai do when he heard about this plan? *He asked Esther to talk to the king to stop Haman's evil plan.*

### Story Point #3: After hearing about the plan, Esther risked her life to save God's people.

- Read: Esther 4:11
  - Question: Why was it dangerous for Esther to approach the king? *Anyone who approached the king without being asked could be killed if the king didn't approve of them by holding out his scepter.*
- Question: What did the king do when Esther told him about Haman's plan to kill her people? *He punished Haman and made a law to keep the Jews safe.*

### REVIEW THE CHRIST CONNECTION AND APPLY IT:

#### Christ Connection: Jesus gave up His life to save God's people from sin.

- Teach: How cool is that?! Esther was willing to give up her life to save God's people, which is cool. Then, Jesus actually did give up His life to save us!

#### Main Application(s): God puts us in positions to love and serve the people around us--whether we realize it or not!

- Read: Esther 4:12-14
- Adults first then kids - Like Mordecai pointed out, God put Esther where she was--in Persia, in the palace, etc.--to use her for His purposes. Where has God put you? *e.g. School, neighborhood, classes*
- Adults first then kids - Esther spoke up for her people when they were in need, how can you speak up for the people around you when they are in need? *Guide kids to think about situations where they may see people being mistreated, such as bullying at school. Remind them that God has commanded us to treat everyone with love and to protect those in need.*

### PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE:

Ask any of the kids if they can remember the key passage. Help lead them through it leaving out words and see if they can fill them in.

The God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, establish, strengthen, and support you after you have suffered a little while.

**1 Peter 5:10**

## PART 3: REFLECTION (10 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper to each child or tell them to get their journals. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or about the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- What is one thing I need to do in light of this story? (Help the kids think of ways they can grow, how they might pray for help or practical steps of repentance they can take.)

After the kids have had time to write down their reflection questions, go around the circle and share one at a time (kids and adults).

## OPTIONAL - PART 3a: LESSON ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

**Skit Night!** Lead your kids to have fun and use their imagination role-playing situations that they might encounter when someone is being mistreated and they should speak up. Help them practice how to speak up boldly! For example, have one person pretend to say hurtful and untrue things about someone else who's "in their class." Have a third person stand up for the one being picked on!

## OPTIONAL - PART 3b: SNACK (5 minutes)

If your group doesn't eat dinner together, now is a great time to stop for a snack break before spending time praying together and talking about living on mission. For Kidtown we keep snacks simple with Goldfish for most kids and Gummy snacks in case a kid has Gluten allergies.

## OPTIONAL - PART 3c: SING (5 minutes)

Play one or more of these videos and sing and dance along!

- [God is Good, All the Time](#) (Even when Esther was unsure about her position and what to do, God was still good!)
- [The God of All Grace](#) (Key Passage Song)

## PART 4: PRAYER TIME! (20 minutes)

### PRAY FOR EACH OTHER: (10 minutes)

**Vision:** God calls His people to love each other, pray for each other and help each other carry burdens.

**Questions to Ask** (pick 1):

- How do you need prayer this week?
- What is one thing you need Jesus to help you with this week?
- What is one way you're hoping Jesus will help you grow this week?

**Pray:** Invite each kid to write down the other kids' prayer requests. Then have each kid pray for the person on their right!

### PRAY FOR JESUS' MISSION: (10 minutes)

**Vision:** God calls His people to share with others the good news of Jesus. This means that we try to love others with our actions and with our words. We want all our friends to know about Jesus and His great love for them.

**Questions to Ask** (pick 1):

- What friends or neighbors of yours can we pray for today?
- How can you show God's love this week to someone who might not know Him?
- Who could we invite to do something fun with our LifeGroup friends this month?

**Pray:** Invite each kid to pray for their friends or someone else's friend to come to know Jesus. Have one adult close out the time, thanking God for how we get to be family together and asking God to bring more people into His family!