Calvary Kids

February 27th and 28th 2021 Esther Saved Her People Bible Passage: Esther



MEMORY VERSE

"We know that in all things, God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28

Thank you so much for watching our Calvary Kids online message today!! Here are some fun ways to dig deeper into today's lesson with the entire family.

1. TODAY'S BIBLE LESSON SUMMARY

King Xerxes was the king of Persia. He was king after King Cyrus who had allowed God's people to go back to Judah to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem. Some of God's people stayed in Persia and became known as Jews because they were from Judah. The king of Persia chose Esther to be his queen. Esther was a Jew, one of God's people but she did not share this with the king. One day her cousin Mordecai found out that Haman an important leader who worked for the king wanted to destroy all the Jews. Mordecai was upset! He was a Jew, and he didn't want all the people he loved destroyed. Esther did not understand why all the Jews were upset so she sent a messenger to ask Mordecai why the Jews were upset. Mordecai told Esther all about Haman's evil plan. Mordecai wanted Esther to do something and told her to ask the king to stop Haman. He told Esther, "Ask the king to stop Haman and to save the Jewish people." Esther wanted to help her people, but no one could approach the king unless the king asked for that person. The punishment was death unless the king held out his scepter, then you will live. Esther had Mordecai tell the Jews to fast for three days, then she would go the king. Esther went to the king. The king saw Esther waiting and held out his scepter to her. "What do want from me? Asked the king, "I'll give you anything you want, even half of my kingdom." Esther asked the king to come to a special meal and bring Haman. They went to the Esther's meal and after the special meal, the king said to her, "I will give you whatever you ask." Esther said, "Come to my feast tomorrow." Haman and the king went to the feast and after they were done, the king said, "What do you want. Esther said, "Please save my people! There is a plan to kill my people." King Xerxes asked, "Who is responsible for this?" "Haman is the one, he is the enemy." Esther said. The king was angry! He punished Haman and made a law to keep the Jewish people save from their enemies!

2. EXPERIENCE THE STORY

• Family Activity (Do the following activity together as a family to reinforce the Bible Lesson and spend time together.)

For a fun family activity, "Make a Cup Phone." You will need one plastic cup per person, 6-foot length of string, I length per two cups, thumbtack or pushpin and some tape. First, use the thumbtack or pushpin to punch a hole in the bottom of a cup, just small enough for the piece of string to go through. Thread the string into the hole and tie a knot to keep the string from slipping put. Tape the end pf string in place. Thread the loose end of the string through the other cup. Knot and tape the end. Make sure to make however many pairs of "Cup Phones" needed for the entire family to play. Have two family members take turns holding one cup to their ear while the other person talks into the other cup. Make sure the string is tight. Talk about how when we are apart from someone or in a different place, we can't just talk and expect others to hear us. We have to find other ways to send a message, like the "Cup Phones" we made. Talk about how in our lesson, Queen Esther learned about an important conversation about God's people from sent messages.

- 3. FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (Have a family discussion about the Bible Lesson and ask the following questions. Retell the story if needed by reading the Bible Passages from our lesson.)
 - **1. Whom did the King Xerxes chose to be his queen?** (The king chose Esther as his queen.)
 - 2. What secret did Esther keep from King Xerxes? (That Esther, herself, was Jewish.)

- **3.** What was the bad news that Esther's cousin Mordecai heard? (He overheard Haman's evil plan to destroy all the Jews.)
- **4. Why was Esther afraid to go to the king?** (King Xerxes had a rule that no one could go before the king unless he asked the person to come.)
- **5.** What could have happened to Esther as a result of her going before the king uninvited? (She could have been put to death.)
- **6. Why do you think Esther was willing to die to save her people?** (Esther knew that she been made queen for this reason, to save her people. She knew that God was working through her life and she spent time in prayer and fasting about this issue. God gave her courage to stand up for her people.)
- **7. Esther stood up for her people. Who stands up for us today?** (When we believe and trust in Jesus, He speaks to God on our behalf. Jesus helps us to obey God and be obedient.)
- **8. How can you speak up for a friend in need?** (When you see someone being mistreated or bullied is a perfect opportunity to step in and be an ally. God has commanded us to treat everyone with love and protect those in need. Discuss things that you can say and do to help others.)
- **9. How can you be part of God's plan?** (We are all uniquely gifted to serve and help others in our families and community. God has a plan and purpose for each of us. We might not know God's exact plan, but we can help others and share the love of Jesus with others.)

4. PRACTICE THE MEMORY VERSE: (Help kids memorize and understand their Bible Verse.)

"We know that in all things, God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28

SAY: Our memory verse reminds us that God loves us and has a plan for us, but His plan is not always obvious. When we love God, He shows us favor and love we do not deserve. God does not promise that we never experience difficult times in our life or going through hard times, but He does promise to love us and be with us.

5. FAMILY REFECTION AND PRAYER: (Time to reflect on the over arcing theme of our Bible Lesson and spend time in Prayer.)

SAY: When Esther became queen, she had no way of knowing what her future would hold. But God had a plan for Esther to protect the Jewish people. God was in control of Haman's plot against Esther's people, the Jews. Esther was in a difficult situation, but she had faith in God. Even though she did not know God's plan, she trusted Him. The Jews would have died at the hands of Haman, but God protected them through Esther's bravery. Like Haman, Satan wants to destroy anyone who believes in God and ruin God's plans. Satan believed he had won when Jesus died on the cross, not true. God raised Jesus from the dead and defeated Satan once and for all. When we believe in Jesus we are rescued from sin and death.

For some additional activities and discussion questions, please check out the Family Experience Page below.

FAMILY EXPERIENCE

MEMORY VERSE

We know that in all things, God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

Romans 8:28



In 2021 Remember To

"Place your hope in Jesus!
He is our hope, our joy, our peace,
our comfort, and our security."

Esther Saved Her People

God made Esther a queen to protect His people.

FAMILY TIME QUESTIONS

- Who was really in control of Esther being queen: the king or God?
- How do you think Esther felt when she went to the king? Why?
- Share a time you did something by faith, trusting that God is in control?

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FAMILY ACTIVITY

Spend time together as a family.

For a fun family activity, "Play Queen or King For A Day." Have the family sit together in a circle. Tell everyone to image what it would be like to be a queen (or king) and be in control. The first person will say, "If I were queen (or king) for a day I would ______," and complete the sentence with one thing they would do if they were a queen (or king). The next person will say the same phrase and repeat what the first person said as well. Discuss who is really in control and how it can be hard to realize that we are not in control! Discuss how God has a plan for each of us.

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