

Lesson 155: Esther Saves Her People

[Esther 2–9](#)

Youtube Link for Teachers: <https://youtu.be/851qUiNg3PA>

Children's Bible Story Video: <https://youtu.be/V7zKXUkPrUQ>

Worship Theme: God has a purpose for you.

Memory Verse: “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” (Ephesians 2:10)

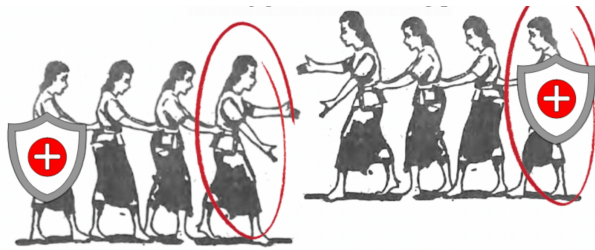
Songs (Youtube links):

1. Jesus Christ Is the Lord of All <https://youtu.be/l-PzUIJ0MVo>
2. My God Is So Great <https://youtu.be/QXEVqO94wpg>
3. When I Am Afraid <https://youtu.be/WCZlwlstAzc>

Pray

Song: Select songs from the list above.

Icebreaker: Train Game (In Khmer: Protect the chicken)



1. Divide the children into two or more groups.
2. They have to hold each other and the first person has to catch the last person in line.
3. The object of the game is to protect the last person because you love them. (You lose the game if the line breaks.)
4. After the game, explain to the children that we have to protect everyone from the enemies because God has a special purpose for everyone.

Introduction:

Do you think you can change the world? Do you think you can make a big impact in the world? What do you think is your purpose in life? Why did God create you? Today, we will learn that God had great plans for an ordinary girl in the Bible.

Bible Story:

Long ago in the country of Persia, there was a sad king named King Xerxes. He was lonely because he didn't have a queen. So he sent out his servants to search for the most beautiful young women they could find. The servants searched and searched and found a young girl named Esther.

She was taken to the palace to see if the king would want her for his queen. Before Esther left her home, her cousin, Mordecai, told her to tell no one that she was a Jew because many people did not like the Jews. The king liked Esther and chose her for his queen.

The king also had a special helper who was almost as powerful as the king. His name was Haman. Haman did not like the Jewish people. He was sneaky and bad. He tricked the king into passing a bad law. This law said that on a special day, all the Jews would be killed.

When Mordecai learned about the new law, he began to cry—very loudly. He was so sad that he tore his clothes. Then, he sent a message to his cousin, the queen. He told Queen Esther that she must go to the king and ask him to change the law and save the Jews. But no one was allowed to go see the king unless the king invited that person. Queen Esther was scared. But Mordecai told her not to be afraid. He said God allowed her to become a queen so she could save her people. So, Queen Esther, her servants, and all the Jewish people prayed and fasted for three days.

Then Queen Esther walked to the king's throne room. What would happen? If he held out his scepter, she would live. But if he didn't, she would die. When she entered the room, Queen Esther saw the king hold out his scepter. The king promised to give her whatever she asked for. She invited the king and Haman to a special feast. At the feast, Queen Esther told the king about Haman's evil plan to kill all the Jews. The king was angry. Haman was killed, Mordecai became king's special helper instead, and all the Jews were saved.

God had a purpose for Queen Esther. When she followed God's plan, the Jewish people were saved. God created each one of us with a purpose and has jobs for all of us to do. The Bible tells us that we were created to do good works. And God promises to be with us and help us fulfill that purpose. We serve a great and mighty God who makes good plans for his people.

Questions to discuss:

1. Why was King Xerxes sad? (Because he did not have a wife)
2. Who became the queen for King Xerxes? (Esther)
3. What was Haman's evil plan? (To kill all the Jews)
4. What must Queen Esther do to save Jews, her people? (She must go to the king even when he did not invite her which may cause her death)
5. How did God use Queen Esther? (she saved the Jews)
6. What do you think is God's purpose for you? (Let the children answer)

Game: "Passing on the Lemon"

Materials Needed: Spoons, lemons, baskets

1. Divide the children into 3 groups and place the baskets in front of each group as well as the back.
2. Place 10 lemons in the basket in the front of the group and give one spoon to each child.
3. Ask the first child in the line to pick up the lemon only using their spoon (cannot use hands) and pass the lemon to the next person. Continue to pass the lemon until the last person is able to drop it in the basket at the end of the line. If the lemon drops, it cannot be picked up.
4. The group that has the most lemon in their basket at the end of the line will win the game.
5. After the game, explain to the children that God used Esther to protect her people. In the same way, for this game, you had to protect the lemons from falling. In life, God has bigger purpose for you, and he will help you to fulfill that call just as he helped Esther.



Memory Verse:

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Ephesians 2:10)

Craft: Esther Saves Her People

Materials Needed: Print craft sheet, crayon, scissors, glue

1. Print the crown craft sheet for each child and have them color it.
2. Cut out the crown and the two sides and glue them together to make a round crown.
3. Explain to the children that although we are ordinary, God wants to use us for amazing things in the future! Let us trust God's promise and always obey him.

Song: Select songs from the list above

Pray

Teacher's Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)

Those who follow Jesus are asked to play various roles in our lives. Read Esther 4:14. According to the text, what will happen with God's plan if we refuse to participate? What will happen to us? Why does God guide us into specific roles at specific times? Reflect and think about these three questions. Then pray this prayer: "Lord Jesus, give me the courage to participate in the work you have for me, and thank you for making good come out of all that you ask us to do!"

