

Week 2



October 12th / 13th

OVERVIEW CARD

Esther

Key Question:

Who can you count on?

Bottom Line:

I can always count on God.

Memory Verse:

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid...,
for the Lord, your God goes with you."
Deuteronomy 31:6, NIV

Bible Story:

God makes me strong and courageous.
Esther
Esther 2:2-8:17

Coloring Page:

Queen Esther saves her people.

Music:

Superhero
Great Big God
I Can Do All Things

Bible Lesson:

Esther Trusts God
God's Story for Me Bible
Pages 230 to 235

Story:

Super Kid

Service Time:

74 minutes

I Can Always Count on God!

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ACTIVITY PAGE

Esther

Not Afraid of Anything

What You Need: The book “The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything” by Linda Williams.

What You Do: Gather the children around you on the carpet and read the book to them. There are great sounds in this story that the children will enjoy as you talk about not being afraid. Once you have read the story, briefly talk about how everyone gets afraid sometimes, but we can count on God to always be there for us.

What You Say:

After you’ve read the book: “The little old lady in this book said she wasn’t afraid of anything, but she really was afraid, wasn’t she?

That’s why she was walking so quickly back to her house.

Sometimes I get afraid too. I’m afraid of things like big strange dogs and flying on airplanes. Do you ever get afraid? *(Pause for responses.)*

When we trust that we can always count on God, it makes us strong and courageous. So tell me, who can you count on? I can always count on God. Stand up with me and let’s say our Bible verse together. Give it all you’ve got!” *(Repeat the Bible verse together with the motions as many times as the kids want to say it. You can say the Memory Verse using different voices that they think a king or queen might have. You can also use accents and loud voices. Let the children take the lead and show what they think a king or queen sounds like.)*

I Can Always Count on God!

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ACTIVITY PAGE

Esther

Getting Stronger

What You Need: No supplies needed.

(Option: Plastic water bottles that have not been opened.)

What You Do: Lead the children in strength-building exercises such as: sit-ups, push-ups, squats, leg lifts, stretches, and arm curls.

(Option: Give each child two water bottles to use as weights while doing some of the exercises.)

What You Say:

During the activity: "Who wants to be SUPER strong? Raise your hand! *(Pause.)* Me too! I want to be *(flex your muscles)* SUPER strong! I have some exercises that will help make us strong. Come on and do them with me!" *(Continue as long as there's interest.)*

At the end of the activity: "Wow! You did a great job! Show me your muscles. *(Do a muscle pose.)* I think you're looking stronger already! Our Bible lesson today was about a girl named Esther. She was SUPER strong, too, but it was LOVE that made her strong, not muscles. She had an amazing story, do you remember what happened?"

I Can Always Count on God!

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ACTIVITY PAGE

Esther

King/Queen, May I?

What You Need: Crown for the leader to wear

What You Do: Have the children form a horizontal line about seven feet behind you. Stand facing away from the children and give them several instructional movements as a group to do in order to reach you such as: hopping, hopping on one foot, baby steps, giant steps, steps on tippy toes, galloping, and skipping. Be sure to tell them how many times they should do each movement. Before they start each movement they should ask you “King or Queen (*depending on your gender*), may I? If they forget to ask, they have to go back to the starting area and try again. (*Option: If you have a small class you can call each child by name to do the movements and play the game individually.*)

What You Say:

Before the activity: “Let’s play a game! Let’s pretend that I am the king/queen and I will tell you to do something fun to get closer to me but before you move you have to ask, ‘King/Queen, may I?’ When I say yes, then you can go. You have to listen carefully to what I say and be sure to ask the question before you move. Are you ready? (*Pause.*) Here we go!”

During the activity: “Take three baby steps. (*Children should ask, ‘King/Queen, may I?’*) Yes, you may. (*Children move.*) Great job! Now take three hops. (*Continue using all the movements until the children reach you. If the children forget to ask, have them go back and begin again. Repeat as many times as desired.*)

At the end of the activity: “Awesome! Our lesson today was about a girl named Esther, and she asked the king something, too. Do you remember what she asked the king?”

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ACTIVITY PAGE

Esther

King's Castle

What You Need: A Castle Puzzle

What You Do: Ask the children to help you put the Castle puzzle together. Talk about what it would be like to live in the castle they put together.

What You Say: "Let's put this puzzle together. This castle is HUGE compared to the houses in our neighborhoods. What do you think it would be like to live in a castle? *(Pause for responses.)* Our Bible lesson today was about a girl named Esther who goes from living in a small house with her family to living in a great, big castle with a king. She was the queen of the castle and the king was going to do something bad to her people. She had to be very strong and brave to talk to the king because no one, not even the queen, could talk to the king without being invited. Esther's love for God and her people made her strong enough to do the right thing. And Esther knew she could count on God to be with her the whole time. God wants to use you to do SUPER things, too! It's true! And you can always count on God to do His part. **Who can you count on? *(Pause.)* I can always count on God."**

I Can Always Count on God!

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ACTIVITY PAGE

Esther

What Would Esther Do?

What You Need: Beach ball or other inflatable ball.

What You Do: Have the children sit in a circle and you sit in the middle. Gently roll the ball to one child at a time, and have them tell you something that is very courageous that they think Esther might do if God asked her to. After they answer, ask them to roll the ball back to you and continue with the next child. Give them an example before you start the game. Continue as long as there's interest.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "Esther was very brave in our lesson today when she went to talk to the king. Do you think she would have done other brave things for God if He asked her to? *(Pause.)* Yes, I think so, too! Everyone close your eyes and think inside your head of something very brave that Esther would do if God wanted her to, but don't tell me yet. Keep it inside your head and when I roll the ball to you then you can tell me what you think Esther would do. When you have told me you can roll the ball back to me. Ready to get started? *(Pause.)* Here we go!"

During the activity: "I think that Esther would climb a VERY tall mountain to tell everyone that God loved them. Okay, now let's hear what you think Esther would do." *(Continue as long as there's interest.)*

At the end of the activity: "Wow! Those were some very brave things that you think Esther would do. I think you are all right! I think you are right because Esther knows that God would always be with her in anything that she did. She can do anything with God with her and so can we! **Who can you count on?** *(Pause.)* Absolutely! **I can always count on God!**"

I Can Always Count on God!

Week 2



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ACTIVITY PAGE

Esther

Red Rover

What You Need: No supplies needed.

What You Do: Lead the children in playing a game of Red Rover. Divide the children into two equal groups. Assist the two groups in forming two lines facing one another. Tell the children to hold hands and spread out a little. Each group will take turns saying, "Red Rover, Red Rover, send [child's name] right over." That person will walk to the other group and join hands. Allow the two groups to keep going back and forth as long as they are having fun. Make sure every child gets his name called out.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "I'm going to teach you how to play a new game today called Red Rover. It's SUPER fun!" *(Explain the game and continue as long as the children are interested.)*

At the end of the activity: "Was it fun hearing your name called out by your friends? *(Pause.)* Sure, it was! It feels good to be chosen, doesn't it? God chose Esther to do something really SUPER in today's Bible lesson. He chose her to save her people from mean Haman. Esther's love for God and her people made her strong enough to do the right thing. And Esther knew she could count on God to be with her the whole time. God wants to use you to do SUPER things, too! It's true! And you can always count on God to do His part. **Who can you count on? *(Pause.)* I can always count on God.**"

I Can Always Count on God!

Week 2



October 12th / 13th

ACTIVITY PAGE

Esther

Puppet Pals

What You Need: “King Puppet,” “Esther Puppet,” “Haman Puppet,” and “Story Script” from the Activity Pages on the Website, white cardstock, craft sticks (three per child), scissors, tape, fine tip marker, and crayons.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Make enough copies of “King Puppet,” “Esther Puppet,” “Haman Puppet,” and “Story Script” from the Activity Pages on white cardstock for each child and cut them out. Once you’ve done that, write the names for each puppet on separate craft sticks so that each child gets all 3 of the puppets.

During the activity: Give each child a “King Puppet,” “Esther Puppet,” and “Haman Puppet” to color. Once they’ve finished coloring, give each child three craft sticks and assist them in taping one puppet to each stick. Use the “Story Script” to retell the Bible story with the children, encouraging them to use their puppets while you read the script.

At the end of the activity: Give each child a copy of the “Story Script” to take home with his story puppets. Tell them they can use their puppets to tell the story at home while their parents read it.

What You Say:

Before the activity: “I love today’s Bible lesson! It had a super mean man named Haman (*hold up the Haman puppet.*), a beautiful queen whose love made her strong (*hold up the Esther puppet.*), and a powerful king (*hold up the king puppet.*). My favorite part is when Esther did something SUPER! Do you remember what she did? (*Pause.*) She went in and asked the powerful king to save her people from mean Haman ... and he did! Wow! What a story!”

During the Activity: “I have all the supplies we need to make our very own puppets! (*Hand out supplies.*) Let’s start with this one. (*Hold up the Haman puppet.*) Who do you think this one is? (*Pause.*) Do you think he’s the king? (*Pause.*) He doesn’t look like one. Do you think this is the queen? (*Pause.*) No, he doesn’t look like one of those, either. I bet he’s Haman! Let’s start coloring him. (*Keep speaking while the children are coloring.*) Haman was not a very nice man. He wanted to hurt Esther’s people, the Jews. (*As children finish help them tape the Haman puppet to the craft stick.*) Now let’s move to the next puppet. (*Hold up the Esther puppet.*) Who do you think she is? (*Pause.*) Yes! It’s Esther! Let’s color her. Just look at her, she’s such a pretty queen! She wanted to save her people, the Jews, from Haman, remember? (*As children finish help them tape the Esther puppet to the craft stick.*) Now, there’s one more puppet left. Who is the one person we haven’t colored from our lesson? (*Pause.*) Yes! The king! He was very important, wasn’t he? Let’s color him, making sure to get his royal robe. (*As children finish help them tape the king puppet to the craft stick.*) You guys did a great job coloring all of your puppets! It looks like we’re ready to use them to tell our Bible lesson from today. This will be great practice for you when you take your puppets home today and tell your family all about our lesson.”

At the end of the activity: “Everybody ready? (*Pause.*) Do what I do while I read the lesson. (*Read the “Story Script” that will go home with the children.*) That was SUPER! Now you’re ready to tell the lesson at home! And you can count on God to help you, just like He helped Esther. **Who can you count on? (*Pause.*) I can always count on God!**”

I Can Always Count on God!

Week 2



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CRAFT

Esther

King and Queen Crowns

What You Need: King and queen crowns, self adhesive jewels, crayons and/or markers.

What You Do:

Give each child a crown. Have the children use the jewels, crayons and/or markers to create their very own crown.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "In our lesson today we talked about a king who helped Esther save her people. Kings and queens wear beautiful clothes and crowns. We are going to make a crown like a king or queen would wear to remind us that God was with Esther when she was brave and that He is with us, too."

At the end of the activity: "I love your crowns! They are so beautiful, just like a king or queen would wear. In today's Bible lesson we learned more about what it really means to be SUPER KIDS! Remember, super's not in your arms or your legs or your brain. It's God living in you that does SUPER things! And God did something else totally SUPER in our Bible lesson today! Do you remember what SUPER thing He did through Esther? *(Pause.)* Yes! Mean Haman was going to hurt Esther's people. Esther loved God and her people so much, it made her strong enough to go and talk to the king. *(Pause.)* And what did the king do? *(Pause.)* He saved Esther's people! Esther knew she could count on God and so can you! **Who can you count on? I can always count on God!**

I Can Always Count on God!

Week 2



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SMALL GROUP

Esther

Small Group Time

What you Need: “Love and Strong Stickers” and Super Kid book.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “Today’s Bible lesson was awesome! We learned more about what it really means to be SUPER KIDS! Remember, super’s not in your arms or your legs or your brain. It’s God living in you that does SUPER things! And God did something else totally SUPER in our Bible lesson today! Do you remember what SUPER thing He did through Esther? *(Pause.)* Yes! Mean Haman was going to hurt Esther’s people. Esther loved God and her people so much, it made her strong enough to go and talk to the king. *(Pause.)* And what did the king do? *(Pause.)* He saved Esther’s people! Esther knew she could count on God and so can you! **Who can you count on?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: “I can always count on God!”

SGL: “When you LOVE God, you can be STRONG like Esther, then God can use you to do SUPER things too! You can be a SUPER KID! I have another special sticker for each of you. This one says ‘love’ and ‘strong’ on it. When I call out your name, stand up and I’ll put it on you.

Call out every child’s name and put a sticker on them. Make this a special time for them.

“Awesome! Now stand up and give me your strongest SUPER pose while we practice saying our Memory Verse with the motions.”

CHILDREN and SGL: “Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid ... , for the Lord your God goes with you, Deuteronomy 31:6.”

SGL: “Are you ready to read our book about being a Super Kid? *(Pause.)* Great, do you remember what happened last week?”

I Can Always Count on God!