



JOURNAL PAGE

1. What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
2. What does this story teach me about myself?
3. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
4. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
5. How does this story help me to live on mission better?



Unit 18 • Session 1

ESTHER SAVED HER PEOPLE

Esther

**HOW SHOULD WE FEEL WHEN WE SIN?
WHEN WE SIN, WE SHOULD FEEL SORRY THAT WE HAVE DISOBEYED GOD AND
WANT TO TURN FROM OUR SIN BECAUSE WE LOVE HIM.**

King Ahasuerus was the king of Persia. When Cyrus was king, he sent some of God's people back to Judah to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem. Another group of God's people stayed in Persia. The king of Persia chose Esther to be his queen. One day, Mordecai heard that Haman was planning to kill all the Jews. Mordecai was upset! He was a Jew; he didn't want all the people he loved to be killed. Mordecai told Esther about Haman's evil plan. "You have to do something!" Mordecai said.

Esther asked Mordecai and the Jews to fast for three days. Then Esther would go to the king. On the third day, Esther went to the king. He saw Esther and held out his golden scepter. "What is it, Queen Esther?" the king asked. "I'll give you anything—up to half of my kingdom."

Esther said, "Would you and Haman come to a feast today?"

So Haman and the king went to Esther's feast. "What do you want, Queen Esther? I'll give you anything—up to half of my kingdom."

"Come to my feast tomorrow," Esther said.

The next day, Haman and the king went to Esther's feast. The king said, "What do you want, Queen Esther? I'll give you up to half of my kingdom."

Esther spoke up, "Haman has a plan to kill me and my people."

The king was angry! He punished Haman and made a law to keep the Jewish people safe from their enemies.

Christ Connection: God was in control over Haman's evil plan to destroy the Jews. Like Haman, Satan wants to ruin God's plan and destroy believers. Satan thought he had won when Jesus died on the cross, but God raised Jesus from the dead and defeated Satan once and for all. All who believe in Jesus are rescued from sin and death.



What's Different? | Look at both pictures on the left and find 10 differences.

Esther •

Ahasuerus •

Mordecai •

Haman •

Jesus •

- King of Persia
- Important leader who worked for the king
- Queen of Persia
- Made an evil plan to kill the Jewish people
- Esther's cousin
- Told the king about the evil plan to kill the Jews
- Sent a message to Esther about the plan to kill the Jews
- Made a law to keep the Jewish people safe
- Saves anyone who believes in Him from sin and death

Bible Story Match Up | Match each person to the statement that best describes him or her. (Hint: Some people may have more than one correct answer.)