



WEEK FOUR – NOVEMBER 2025 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: *Esther | Ester 1-10*

Bottom Line: *God can help you stand up for others*

Memory Verse: *“Those who trust in the Lord will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.”- Isaiah 40:31 (NirV)*

Insight: *Identity Based on God’s Image – I am created in the image of God and have unique potential and worth*

Application: *Confidence – Living like you believe God is with you*

Series Overview: God chose a people and promised through them to bless the whole world. And God fulfilled that promise by sending Jesus to rescue and redeem us. When we begin to understand this story and allow it to inform everything in our lives, we can live from a place of quiet confidence, knowing God is always with us and is able to work every single thing we face into a beautiful pattern for our good. This month, we’re exploring some larger-than-life characters from God’s story who lived during the decline of Israel and Judah and the following exile. These individuals chose to—or failed to—place the full weight of their lives on trust in God. Through stories of Elijah, Jonah, Daniel, Esther, and Nehemiah we see how making choices from a foundation of trust changes everything about the way you live

8:45 - 9:05 | 10:45 – 11:05 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

Connection Centers

Connect: a time that invites kids to share with others and leaders

What You Need: Activity Bins + Coloring Sheets (find on your shelves in space)

What You Do:

- *PRE-CONNECTION TIME*
 - **Before kids arrive, pray for your group before they arrive. Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Thank God that He places people in the right place at the right time for His purpose. Recall an age-appropriate story about a time when God gave you courage to speak up for someone else or do what was right to help them. Ask God to help each kid realize that their voice matters and that He can use them, even now! Ask God to help the kids learn how to hear and listen to His voice as He leads them through the places He’s put them for such a time as this!**
- *DURING CONNECTION TIME*
 - Greet each child by name and with a high five or fist bump!
 - **Make sure to grab second sticker from the child + place it on your sticker sheet**
 - Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
 - Pull out your activity bins + set aside some coloring sheets for kids to partake in your small group space
 - Ask questions in order to connect with + get to know your few as you partake in activities alongside them...you can use these :
 - ***“What is the nicest thing someone did for you this week?”***
 - ***“What is one thing that God made that you think is extra cool? (Like a sunset, a dog, or a tree”***
 - ***“Do you like to play outside or inside more when it's cold?”***
 - ***“Do you like hot chocolate or apple cider more?”***

- *“When you grow up, what is one thing you want to teach someone else how to do?”*
- *AFTER CONNECTION TIME*
 - *Use this time to review over how to be successful in small group time as well as Flatirons Kids by using the SG Structure 101 sheet featured on your activity shelf*
 - Go over each rule to create a great small group experience
 - Transition into the Opening Small Group Activity

9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | OPENING SMALL GROUP

OPENING ACTIVITY

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high-five, smile, or wave as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Instruct the kids to sit in a circle or around a table in chairs.
- Introduce a game called “Stand Up If!”
 - Say: “When I call out something that might be true for you, stand up! Then sit back down so we can go to the next one.”
- Read the “Stand Up If” prompts below one by one.
- Pause periodically to call on any kids who want to explain why they chose to stand.
 - *NOTE: If time allows, invite kids to share their own “Stand Up If” prompts with the group!*
- Continue until all the prompts have been answered.
 - **“Stand Up If” Prompts**
 - Stand up if you’ve ever eaten pizza.
 - Stand up if you’ve ever asked God for help.

- Stand up if you've ever felt nervous before a big moment.
- Stand up if you like rainy days.
- Stand up if you like cheering for your friends.
- Stand up if ice cream is your favorite dessert.
- Stand up if you've ever stood up for someone else.
- Stand up if you like celebrating your birthday.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- For an option with less movement, invite the kids to raise their hands from a seated position or use a thumbs-up to answer the prompts.

What You Say:

“Wow! So many of us like some of the same things, or have been through the same kinds of things. One thing is for sure—we've all had moments when we needed to be confident, even if it felt scary!

“Today, in our true story from the Bible, we'll follow the story of Esther. Esther did something pretty bold and brave, even when it wasn't easy. She stood up for others! God wants to give you the confidence to stand up for others too! Let's go find out how!”

9:20 - 9:50 | 11:20 – 11:50 | LARGE GROUP

Next up, in Week 4, we're back in foreign lands with the story of Esther. After catching King Xerxes' eye, Esther was made queen. But when a plot was set in motion that would destroy all the Jewish exiles in Persia, Esther knew that even her royal position couldn't save her. So relying on her confidence in God, she went before the king to beg for the lives of her people.

9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 | SMALL GROUP

What If?

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into groups of 2-3.
- Say, “Today you’ll help me tell Esther’s story, but with a twist!”
- One by one, read a real moment from Esther’s story—they are listed below—then pause and ask the “What if?” question that corresponds to the real moment.
- After reading a “What If?” question, invite the groups to act it out.
- For each round, select a group to share their skit, acting out the “What If” question.
- Before going through Esther’s story, discuss the questions below.
- Ask: What gave Esther the confidence to stand up for her people even when it was hard?
 - *Esther trusted and believed God put her there at that time for a reason! (Esther 4:14b)*
- Ask: Why can we have confidence in God?
 - *Because He is good and He is always working for good.*
- **“What If?” Scenarios:**
 - Real: Haman made a plan to hurt God’s people.
What if: Mordecai had just stayed quiet and not told Esther anything about Haman’s awful plan?

Real: Esther was afraid, but chose to go to the king.

What if: Esther had stayed quiet and done nothing to help?

Real: Esther prepared two banquets to build up courage and timing

What if: Esther had rushed in without a plan?

Real: Esther trusted that God had put her where she was for that time, and stood up for her people.

What if: Esther only looked out for herself and ignored people in danger?

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- For an option with less movement, have the kids share answers to the “what if” statements from a seated position.

What You Say:

“Wow—so many ‘what if’ moments! Esther had a choice, just like we do! Think about it: she could’ve backed away or stayed quiet. But she put aside her own fears and trusted that God had a plan and chose to do the right thing. How incredible is it that God puts us all in the right places for a purpose to carry out His plans!

“We are just like Esther! Just like her, God has put us in this exact time and this exact place. You are to go through your life, with God’s guidance, and help people see and feel God’s love and goodness.

“God is fair and just. So when you’re fair, when you stand up for someone who is being picked on, you’re not only being like God, you’re showing the world who God is! God is kind, so when you sit with a kid who is alone, you’re not only being like God, you’re showing the world who God is! God loves people who don’t seem to fit in, so when you show kindness to someone who is different than you, you’re not only being like God, you’re showing the world who God is!

“And God has put you just where you are to show your world what He is like!

“As you go throughout your days showing who God is, God goes with you every step of the way, and He will help you. **God can help you stand up for others!**”

For Such A Time As This

[Live For God | Application Activity]

What You Need: Bible; “Perfectly Placed” Activity Paged; Prepared Poster board; two colors of sticky notes; pencils; masking tape

What You Do:

- Tape the prepared poster board on a wall or place it on the floor in your group area.
- Gather the kids several feet away from the poster board.
- Read Esther 4:14 aloud to the group.
- Give every kid at least five sticky notes in each color and a pencil.
- Encourage the kids to write their initials on their sticky notes.
- Gesture to the prepared poster board and ask: “In today’s Bible Story, Esther and her people were going to be killed. Esther’s people were in danger! She could have done nothing, but she realized that God put her where she was to help. So she got involved and helped! She stood up for others.”
 - Say, “We’re going to look at different situations we may face in our own lives where we face a choice too—we can either stand up for others, or we can choose not to get involved. On the left side of this poster board, we’ll place sticky notes of one color for choices that show what it looks like not to get involved. On the right side, we’ll put sticky notes of the other color that show that the hard thing was done and we stood up for others.”
- Read the “Perfectly Placed” Activity Page scenarios one at a time and ask:
 - “Does this show someone standing up for others or not?”
- Invite every kid to respond by placing the corresponding sticky note color with their initials on the side they want to choose.
- Continue until all of the scenarios have been read and voted on.
- ***[Make It Personal] (Share an age-appropriate example of a time God helped you stand up for others.)***

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Before you begin, provide a visual of what to do with the sticky notes by placing a sticky note on each side and explaining the color meanings.

What You Say:

“You may not be standing in a palace or talking to a king, but you are just like Esther in that God has put you *exactly in the time and place you are*—in your family, in your class, on your team, in your church group. God wants you to go through your life and show His love, goodness, kindness, justice, and truthfulness!

“Maybe it’s someone being made fun of. Or maybe it’s someone who just needs to know they matter. Remember that you’re not going through this alone. When you choose to follow Jesus, God’s very Spirit, the Holy Spirit, moves inside of you. He will go with you throughout your life and say things to your heart like: ‘Hey, do you see that kid over there who is all alone? He needs someone to be kind to him. Go do that!’

“You are not alone as you go and show God’s heart to others. **God can help you stand up for others!**”

PRAYER TIME

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

What You Need: “Brick Prayers” Activity Page

What You Do:

- I Gather the kids in a seated circle.
- Give every kid a prayer card (a brick) from the “Brick Prayers” Activity Page.
- Set out the coloring supplies.
- Say, “Esther showed real courage when she stood up for others.”
- Ask the kids to quietly think of a person they know who might need someone to look out for them.
 - *Give examples like a new kid at school, someone who’s been left out, or a friend going through a hard time.*
- On the prayer card, encourage kids to:
 - Write that person’s name or draw a picture of them.
 - Write a short prayer for them.

- If time allows, let the kids to decorate their prayer card.
- Encourage them to take their prayer card home and continue praying to God about that person!
- Close in prayer.
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What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for all of my friends here today! Thank You for reminding us through Esther’s story that You put us in our worlds for such a time as this. Please help us listen to Your Spirit and see the people around us whom You are calling us to help. Remind us that You are always right there with us in everything You ask us to do! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

[As adults arrive to pick up, invite the kids to share their “Brick Prayers.” Who did they choose to pray for today? Why? How is God calling them to look out for that person this week?]