

# K-2nd



November 18-19, 2017

DATE

Esther

LESSON TITLE

Book of Esther

WHERE TO FIND IT

God gives us courage.

MAIN POINT

## schedule

**Connect Time (20 minutes):** Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

**Large Group (30 minutes):** Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

**Small Group (15 minutes):** Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you all have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

## tips

We're talking about tough situations today. Be aware that this could mean that kids might share some personal situations that could represent significant challenges or deep hurt. Though we want kids to know that God can give them courage even in that situation, we don't want kids to feel like we're dismissing serious situations by simply telling them to trust God. Try to relate to kids with personal experiences, and be sure not to minimize their situation.

## check-in/out

Remind kids to tell their parents WHY they made special "Purim" rattles today!

## large group heads up

We're watching a Pixar short during Large Group. It's a little long, but a good example of a character making the best of a tough situation.



## connect time

**GOAL:** *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away, while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

### TEACHER MAY I

**\*Split kids into small groups for this activity.**

- Have kids line up against a wall, or gather on one side of the room.
- We're going to play "Teacher May I?" The rules of the game go like this:
  - Each kid gets a turn to ask the leader, "Teacher, may I..." followed by a request to move toward you. Here's some examples of what they could ask:
    - Teacher, may I take 2 giant steps forward?
    - Teacher, may I jump 5 times?
    - Teacher, may I take a baby step backward?
  - After a kid asks you if he/she can do something, you reply with either "Yes" or "No." If you say yes, all the kids have to do what was suggested. If you say no, suggest something else for them to do. For example, if a kid asks, "Teacher, may I take one step forward?" you could say, "No, but you can hop 3 times."
  - After a few kids have taken a turn asking, "Teacher, May I," play the rest of the game with a **NEW RULE: kids have to keep their eyes closed for the rest of the game!**
  - Here's some examples of suggestions to give kids:
    - Skip in a circle
    - Do 5 jumping jacks
    - Take 3 giant steps sideways
    - Take 2 baby backwards
    - Flap your arms like you have bird wings
    - Sit down, and then stand back up
    - Stand on one leg. Switch to the other leg.
  - Make sure kids have a few feet in between each other. Remind them to keep their hands to themselves, and to be careful as they do their actions.

**Before you go to Large Group, you can ask kids how their week went. You can also remind kids of the expectations for Large Group behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.**

## special notes

Today we'll watch three different videos.

- Pixar's Boundin' (Part 1)
- God's Story / Esther
- Pixar's Boundin' (Part 2)

The first video is the first half of a movie clip that will set up the lesson. The second video is the Bible story for today. The third video is the second half of the movie clip kids watched earlier.

## presenter tips

Here's a link to today's video:

God's Story / Esther  
([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZXp41Npw\\_Uw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZXp41Npw_Uw))

## script

### WELCOME AND INTRO

**Main Goal:** Review Connect Time and introduce the lesson.

### *\*Click to play intro music.*

- **Say:** Hey, everyone! Welcome to Kids' Club! What did you think of our game in Connect Time? (Let kids respond.) Yep, you all had to be a little brave. At first it was easy to play, but then it got a little harder...why? (Let a few kids respond.) Yep, you had to close your eyes!
- **Ask:** With your eyes open, it's easy to take a giant step forward. But with your eyes closed...it's a little scary, because you don't know where you're stepping, or who you'll run into!
- **Say:** In real life, we end up in situations where we have to be brave too, and do things that are really hard, or that may even seem impossible. One time...*(Give a personal example of a seemingly impossible or difficult situation you faced. Later in the script, there will be a chance to describe how God helped you through the situation.)*
- **Ask:** Has anyone here ever faced something hard? Something that made you worried or afraid? Maybe it made you sad or angry? Yeah, I bet we all have.
- **Say:** Let's take a look at a video that tells the story of a sheep who ends up in a situation that seems hopeless. As you watch, pay attention to what the sheep loses, and how it makes him feel.
- **Video: Boundin' (0:00-1:44)**

**WE ALL FACE TOUGH SITUATIONS**

**Main Goal:** Kids see that we all face tough situations through a story from the presenter and video.

- **Ask:** So what did the sheep lose? (Let kids respond.) Yep, someone shaved him of all his beautiful wool! He thinks he's lost everything that made him important, and he's really upset and sad. He's being made fun of, and probably thinks nothing good will come of this situation!
- **Say:** Our story today is about a character from the Bible who ALSO ended up in a rough situation that seemed impossible to get through. Her name was Esther, and we're going to hear about something that happened in her life that could have made anyone feel hopeless and want to quit.
- **Say:** Before we learn more, let's look at three pieces of information that would be good to know before we start.
  1. Esther was a Jew, which means she was part of God's special family.
  2. Esther was being raised in Persia, because God's family had been kicked out of their home in Israel.
  3. Esther was an orphan, because her parents had died. Her cousin, Mordecai, was raising her.
- **Say:** Now Esther wasn't born into royalty, but she was chosen to be queen of Persia, by a guy named King Xerxes. That's pretty fun to say, let's all repeat! (Have kids repeat Xerxes).
- **Say:** Esther needed to convince the king to change his mind about something REALLY IMPORTANT. Now that would be hard enough all by itself, right? Well, she also knew that it could make the king angry enough that she could be *killed*. It seemed like she was in a situation that was hopeless!

**GOD GIVES ESTHER COURAGE**

**Main Goal:** Understand that Esther was in a seemingly impossible situation, but God gave her courage.

- **Say:** Let's watch a video and see what happened next. As you watch, see pay attention to how Esther trusted God to help her get through it.
- **Video: God's Story / Esther**
- **Ask:** So, what impossible or hopeless thing did Esther face? (Let kids respond.) Yep, when she told the king about Haman's plan, she knew it might not work, or that she could be killed. But even though it seemed impossible and really hard to do, she knew she had to try. And God gave her the courage and ideas to make it possible!



**GOD GIVES US COURAGE, TOO**

**Main Goal:** Understand that God gives us courage too, by showing the resolution of the video from earlier, and sharing the resolution from a personal story.

- **Say:** Remember the sheep from the beginning of the story? He went through something really hard, and he thought there was no way he could ever get through it. Well, there's more to this story! Let's watch the second part of the video, and see how the sheep's life ends up changing for the better, even when faced with an impossible situation, just like Esther was facing.
- **Video: Boundin' Part 2 (1:40-4:26)**
- **Ask:** So, how was the sheep able to change the impossible, hopeless situation he was in? (Let kids respond.) Yep, the Jackalope came along and ended up helping him out. He helped the sheep find the courage to keep going and be alright with himself, even without wool.
- **Say:** God is our helper too, and he can give us courage and bravery to face really hard things. We have to trust Him, though. Sometimes, that means we don't know exactly how things will turn out, but we DO know God will take care of us.
- **Say:** Let's look at a verse that tells us this exact thing. It's from the book of Psalms, which is a part of the Bible filled with only songs and poems!
- **Slide: Psalm 56:3 But when I am afraid, I will put my trust in you.**

**RESPONSE TIME**

**Main Goal:** Give kids a chance to actively respond to what they heard.

***\*Use this space to jot down some notes about the resolution of your personal story.***

- **Say:** Remember the situation I mentioned earlier? *(Give a quick recap of the situation you described earlier in the script).* That was a tough situation, but God gave me courage, and he turned it into something good. *(Tell kids about the resolution to the seemingly impossible situation.)*
- **Say:** We can completely and totally trust that God will take care of us, and give us courage to get through impossible things, just like Esther did.
- **Say:** And you want to know something cool about Esther? Jewish people celebrate her today with a holiday called Purim! THAT'S how amazing this story is, people are still celebrating it thousands of years later! Now Let's take a minute to thank God right now and THANK him for that...before he's even helped us!

**WRAP UP AND WORSHIP**

**Main Goal:** Close the lesson with prayer and worship.

- **Say:** *(Pray and model how you would offer God thanks even before your prayer is answered; then give kids some silence at the end of the prayer to thank God on their own.)*
- **Say:** Let's worship God now, so get up and dance! See if you can follow along with the words and motions, as we tell God how glad we are that we can trust him, and he will help us do impossible things!
- **Music Video: Trust in the Lord**
- **Music Video: Hosannarock**

***Dismiss kids to small group.***



## instructions

**Goal:** Kids will (1) identify tough situations Esther face, (2) recognize hard situations in their own lives, and (3) recognize that God will help them like he helped Esther.

**Why?** We all face challenging situations in life. This story reminds us that even in the most difficult situations, God will give us the courage to keep moving forward.

**Tip:** Some kids may not be able to identify an “impossible” situation. If they struggle with that, focus more on opportunities they might have to show courage.

## small group

### MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. What impossible situations did Esther face? (List all you can think of)
2. What did she do to show bravery? (She asked the king to stop Haman, and make a law to save her people; she told the king who she really was.)
3. What if you were in Esther’s shoes? How would you feel?
4. What happened after she showed bravery, and asked the king to help save her people? (The king made a new law that the Jews could live; Esther saved God’s family because she took a brave step.)
5. Think about the sheep from the movie clip. Have you ever been in a situation like that, where you felt like things wouldn’t get better? What happened?

### ACTIVITY #1 / PURIM NOISE MAKERS

- Today, Jewish people celebrate a holiday called “Purim” to celebrate Esther, and how she saved God’s special family.
- When people celebrate Purim, it’s like a party! They throw parades, dress in costumes and publically celebrate with music and dancing. Kids will often create noise makers as part of the celebration, and that’s what we’re going to make today!
- Give every kid **1 plastic egg**, and **5 pony beads**. Set out **crayons** and **masking tape**. Here’s how to make the noise-maker:
  - Put the beads in the egg and close it.
  - Wrap a piece of tape around the egg (shown on the next page). Kids should need no more than 2-3 inches of tape each (long enough to wrap around the whole egg).
  - Color and decorate the taped portion with crayons.
  - Turn on some Kids’ Club music and let kids dance and make noise!  
(See next page for activity images.)

**ACTIVITY #2 / BRAVERY CHARADES (OPTIONAL)**

- Have kids roll a die. Each number on the die corresponds to the following actions. Kids have to bravely act out or share based on what number they get!
  1. Hop on one foot while spinning in a circle
  2. Act like a dinosaur for 10 seconds
  3. Say the ABC's while doing jumping jacks
  4. Run to the opposite wall of the room, touch it, and run back.
  5. Tell the group how you'll be brave this week.
  6. Tell the group your favorite part of Esther's story

*Extra time? Have kids do a coloring sheet!*





## connect questions

Tell me about Esther.  
How did she show bravery?

## lesson supplies

Connect Time			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
No Supplies Needed			site

Large Group			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Adventure Bible for Early Readers	1 per large group, reused	<a href="http://BiblesbytheCase.com">BiblesbytheCase.com</a>	site

Small Group			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Coloring Page - Esther	1 per kid	8.5x11 paper, black & white, Page 10	site
Crayons	1 set per group, reused	*note that crayons are not typically stored in these room	site
Plastic egg	1 per kid	<a href="#">Oriental Trading, Item #IN-5/912</a>	KC National
Pony beads	5 per kid	<a href="#">Oriental Trading, Item #IN-57/3</a>	KC National
Masking tape	1 roll per small group, reused	*Do not use painters tape	site
Foam Dice	1 per small group, reused	<a href="#">Oriental Trading, Item #39/716</a>	KC National

name \_\_\_\_\_

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Tell me about Esther.

How did she show bravery?

*Read more about this week's story in the book of Esther.*

# A/V needs

K-2nd



1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Video: Boundin' Part 1 (0:13-1:44; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WkWE19QoUBc>)
3. Video: God's Story / Esther ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZXp41Npw\\_Uw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZXp41Npw_Uw))
4. Video: Boundin' Part 2 (1:45-4:26; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WkWE19QoUBc>)
5. Slide: Psalm 56:3 But when I am afraid, I will put my trust in you.
6. Music Video: Trust in the Lord (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=goc2k9Qe-eo&t=1s>)
7. Music Video: Hosannarock (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5582z642wFY>)