Heaven's Kingdom: Living for the King

"Remember that I commanded you to be strong and brave. So don't be afraid. The Lord your God will be with you everywhere you go." Joshua 1:9 (ICB)

Lesson - Living for the King means Helping Others!

Welcome back to Heaven's Kingdom: Living for the King! Last week, we learned that Queen Esther said YES and went to see King Xerxes because her people needed help. The king welcomed Esther by holding out his special golden staff, called a scepter. Then he asked Esther what she wanted. Esther had something very important to tell him, but first, she waited for the right time.

SAY IT: God is my king!

DO IT: Make a crown with your hands on your head.

Esther invited King Xerxes and Haman to a special meal called a banquet. At the banquet, the king asked Esther what she wanted, but Esther decided to wait. She invited them to another banquet the next day. Esther knew she had something important to say, and she wanted to say it at the right time. Victory Kids, living for the King means choosing God's way with our words too. We can slow down, think before we speak, and use kind and helpful words.

SAY IT: I can use my voice for God!

DO IT: Point to your mouth, then point up to the sky.

At the second banquet, King Xerxes asked Esther again what she wanted. This time, Esther told him the truth. She told the king that she was Jewish and that her people were in danger because of Haman's terrible plan.

Esther used her voice to help others. Victory Kids, we can use our voices to help too! If someone is being mean to another child, we can tell a teacher. Living for the King means using our words to do what is right and help others.

SAY IT: I can use my voice to help!

DO IT: Cup your hands around your mouth.

Esther had spoken to the king, but her people still needed help. So, Esther did not stop. She went to King Xerxes again and asked him to help. The king allowed Esther and Mordecai to make a new law so the Jewish people could protect themselves. Esther kept doing what was right and helping others. We can help others, too! We can be friends when someone is lonely. We can ask a grown-up for help when someone needs help. We can keep helping because we live for the King!God can use our words, choices, and actions to help others. Living for the King means choosing God's way and using what we have to help others!

SAY IT: I can help others!

DO IT: Reach both hands out in front of you.

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, You are our King, and we want to live for You. Help us use kind words, make good choices, and notice when someone needs help. Show us how to use our words and actions to care for others and keep doing what is right. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Lesson Questions - 10 Mins

2 & 3yr olds

1. Did Esther tell the king what she wanted right away? **(No)**
2. Did Esther use her voice to help her people? **(Yes)**
3. Did Esther keep helping her people? **(Yes)**
4. Can God help us use our voices to help others? **(Yes)**

4yrs - 1st Grade

1. Who did Esther invite to the special meal called a banquet? **King Xerxes and Haman**
2. What did Esther do instead of telling the king what she wanted right away? **She waited for the right time.**
3. What did Esther tell King Xerxes at the second banquet? **She told him that she was Jewish, or she told him her people were in danger.**
4. What are some ways we can help when someone needs help? **Various Answers**

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"Remember that I commanded you to be strong and brave. So don't be afraid. The Lord your God will be with you everywhere you go." Joshua 1:9 (ICB)

Activity 1: Help Esther!

Items Needed: Paper hearts with simple pictures of helping actions

Connection: Esther used her position to help her people. We can use what God has given us to help others too.

Step 1: Place the paper hearts around the room.
Step 2: Tell the children, "Esther helped people who needed her. Let's find ways we can help too!"
Step 3: Have the children take turns finding a heart. Each heart can show a simple action, such as helping someone up, sharing a toy, giving a hug, including a friend, or getting a grown-up to help.
Step 4: After each child finds a heart, have everyone pretend to do the action together.
Step 5: Say, "Esther used what God gave her to help others. We can use what God gives us to help others too!"
Step 6: Have everyone say together: "I can help others!"

Activity 2: Banquet Plate Ring Toss

Items Needed: Ring Toss Game, tape for starting line

Connection: Esther invited King Xerxes and Haman to a special banquet. Let's pretend our rings are "plates" and see how many we can get ready for Esther's banquet!

Step 1: Set up the ring toss game several feet away from the starting line. Explain that each ring represents a "plate" for the banquet.
Step 2: Have the children line up behind the starting line and take turns tossing the rings toward the pegs.
Step 3: Encourage each child to try to land as many "ring plates" as possible on the pegs.
Step 4: After everyone has had a turn, celebrate together and say, "The banquet is ready!"

Activity 3: Bubble Party or Story Time

Items Needed: Bubbles and music OR book basket

We've got some extra time today, so let's spend it worshipping and dancing with bubbles or reading a book to the class (please show the pictures on each page).

Craft or Coloring Sheet (use 1 or 2 options depending on class age & time)

Craft 1: Use Your Voice Megaphone Craft

Items Needed: Pre-cut Megaphone template, construction paper, scissors, glue dots, glue, or tape, and crayons

Connection: Esther used her voice to help her people when they were in trouble. This megaphone reminds us that living for the King means using our words to help others and do what is right!

Step 1: Give each child a pre-cut megaphone template and allow them to color and decorate it.
Step 2: Give each child a piece of construction paper. Roll the construction paper into a tube and secure it with tape.
Step 3: Wrap the megaphone template around the construction paper tube and secure it with tape.
Step 4: Let the children hold up their finished megaphones and say together, "God gives me courage to speak up!"

Craft 2: Esther Speaks Up for Others Coloring Sheet

Items Needed: Coloring sheet and crayons.

Connection: Esther honored the King by speaking up for others.

Step 1: Distribute the coloring sheets and allow time to color.


Esther Speaks Up for Others