

**Lesson #1-14****Esther Leads**

Esther 4:1-17

Key Verse:

“Who knows? Perhaps you came to royal dignity for such a time as this?”

Esther 4:14

The Point:

We all can be leaders in faith and make a difference for others.

Unit Theme (December 2—December 23)

Faith in God's Promises

Praying for Courage

Pray like Queen Esther.

You will need:

† Nothing

Instructions:

- 1. What does courage mean?** *[Being brave, doing the right thing even when it is hard.]*
- 2. What are some ways you can show courage?** *[Doing the right thing, even when no one else is; being willing to try new things, even if you might fail; telling the truth no matter what the consequences might be; facing your fears and working to overcome them; admitting your mistakes and learning from them.]*
- 3. Who are some people who have shown courage?** *[Queen Esther, Jesus, Mom, Dad, Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks, soldiers, police officers, firefighters, doctors.]*
- 4. Even though you may not be a queen**
- 5. Let's take some time to pray together for courage. Let's kneel like Esther did.**
- If they are comfortable doing so, invite students to share situations that they are worried or fearful about.
- Lead a prayer based on their concerns, or use the following: **God, we know that you are always with us, but sometimes we are afraid. We pray today especially for ... Give us courage like you gave Queen Esther. Amen.**

Bonus: Singing the Story

Queen Esther Was Very Brave

Sing a piggyback song to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb.”

Mordecai was very sad, very sad, very sad,
Mordecai was very sad when he came to the gate.

He asked Queen Esther for her help, for her help, for her help,
He asked Queen Esther for her help to save the exiled Jews.

After a fast of three whole days, three whole days, three whole days,
After a fast of three whole days, Queen Esther asked for help.

She risked her very life that day, life that day, life that day,
She risked her very life that day to rescue and to save.

Queen Esther was so very brave, very brave, very brave,
Queen Esther was very brave through her faith in God.