

## August 2020, Week 3

**Today's Bible Story:** This is Me (Esther) • *Esther*

**Today's Key Question:** What do you think your purpose could be?

**Today's Bottom Line:** God created you for a purpose.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *LORD, you are great. You are really worthy of praise. No one can completely understand how great you are.* Psalm 145:3 (NIRV)

**Monthly Life App:** Creativity—Imagining what you could do because you're made in God's image.

**Basic Truth:** I can trust God no matter what.

### **Digging In: Review the Bible Story, Memorize the Verse, and Pray Together**

*Feel free to use these as you are able. You can do all of them, you can spread them out throughout the week when you're having God time with your child, or just do one or two that you feel like will be most helpful for your child.*

#### **1. Bible Story Extension**

[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

*Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** Bible, "Story of Esther" Activity Page, tape

#### **What You Do:**

- **Lay** out a roll of tape and a set of "Story of Esther" cards placed facedown.
- **Explain** that the cards highlight events from the story of Esther.
  - o Work to place the cards in chronological order and then tape the edges of the cards together in a line.
  - o Then pick up the line of cards and connect the two cards on the end, forming a circular crown shape.

#### **(Correct order)**

1. Esther caught the eye of King Xerxes and he chose her to be his new queen.
  2. Mordecai refused to bow down to Haman.
  3. Haman came up with an evil plan.
  4. King Xerxes decreed that all of the Jewish people must be killed.
  5. Mordecai sent a message to Esther about the King's decree.
  6. Esther took a brave risk and invited King Xerxes and Haman to a feast.
  7. Esther revealed Haman's evil plan to the King.
  8. Haman died.
  9. The King made a new decree that saved the Jews from death.
  10. The Jewish people celebrated.
- **Read** Esther 4:12-14 and explain the context of the verse. (The letter Mordecai sent to Esther.)
  - **Ask:**
    - o In what way did Mordecai express his faith that God creates each person for a purpose?
    - o Looking back at the events in Esther's life, what would you say she was created to do?

- o Could *anyone* do what Esther did? Why or why not?
- o Finish this sentence: “One thing I learned from Esther’s story is ...” (*Let just 2-3 kids answer this question so the discussion time doesn’t go too long.*)
- o What is the most encouraging part of knowing that you were created for a purpose?
- **Encourage** them to read the full story of Esther this week.

## 2. Discussion Questions

### [Live for God | Application Activity]

*Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding*

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

**Ask:**

- What does the following statement mean to you? “Everyone was made to do something . . . and whatever that something is, no one can do it quite like you.”
- Is it possible to miss the purpose God has for you? Explain.
- Is there one specific purpose God has that is the same for EVERYONE? If so, what is it?
- How do you think our purpose changes at different times or in different places?
- What do you think your purpose might be?

## 3. Make it Personal with Prayer

### [Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

*Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application*

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Say:** “Dear God, thank You for creating each of us with a purpose. Help us follow You as we follow our hopes and dreams. Above all, help us to fulfill the ONE greatest purpose You have for everyone—to believe in Jesus and invite Him to be our Savior. As You open the way for us to do what You made us to do, help us serve You the way Esther did, with courage, faith, and creativity. In Jesus’ name. Amen”