

City LG—November 27th, 2022

Today's Bible Story: Stand Up (Esther) • *Esther*

Today's Bottom Line: You can do what you should even when you don't know what will happen.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope. I am the LORD your God. I will be with you everywhere you go.* Joshua 1:9b (NIRV)

REMINDER: Kids will need to be grouped into Small Groups to begin Service

WORSHIP: "Shine a Light" and "Give My All"

"Hi, friends! Wow, it's great to be here with you as we continue God's Big Story. (*Hold up Bible.*)

"If we look back at where we've been so far, we can see how God has been showing love to people since the very beginning! God had a plan to bless the whole world through Abraham's family, the Israelites. God rescued the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and led them to the Promised Land.

"God put kings in place to lead the people. But over and over, the Israelites kept turning away from God.

"At last, we read in the Bible how God allowed the Israelites to be captured by other nations. Even in captivity, though, some of these men and women still loved and honored God. One of those people was a young woman named Esther. She is who our story is about today. Before we take a look at her story today, I have a question for you..."

SLIDE: Key Question 4 Slide ("When have you done something you were afraid to do?")

"3 minutes on the clock! Talk it out with your Groups. Ready? GO!"

CG: Question Video (Runtime: 3:00)

"Great job everyone! Let's get into our Story Lab today. Take a look!"

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 13:00)

"Esther's story is truly an amazing story of courage. Esther had the chance to save her people, but she had to risk her life by approaching the king! And don't forget, Esther had no idea what would happen next. She didn't know if the king would let her live and listen to what she had to say.

"But the king DID listen to her. God had put Esther in her position as queen so that she could be the one to speak up for her people.

"Sometimes there's something we know we should do, but it's hard to work up the courage to actually do it. In those times, we can trust that God is with us. We can think of Esther and remember how God was with HER, even when she didn't know what would happen next. Let's learn today's Bottom Line together!"

CG: Bottom Line Video (Runtime: 1:00)

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] "You can do what you should even when you don't know what will happen.

"Let's talk to God and ask God to give us the kind of courage Esther had. Will you pray with me?"

PRAY: “Dear God, thank You for saving Esther and her people in such an amazing, powerful way! Esther must have been afraid when she went to approach the king. But even in that scary situation, You were there with her. You helped her speak up for what was right. Thank You for being here with us, too. Please show us how we can be courageous and do what we should, even when we’re not sure what will happen. Help us trust You, no matter what. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

“What a story! Esther really had to trust God, didn’t she? I mean, it was a BIG risk for her to speak up and try to save her people. She didn’t know what would happen when she went to speak to the king.

“But Esther chose to trust God. She faced her fears. That’s how she ended up saving the Jewish people from Haman’s awful plan.

“It’s tough to have courage when you don’t know what will happen next. But God can give you the strength you need to do what’s right.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “You can do what you should even when you don’t know what will happen.

“And remember, you don’t have to find courage all by yourself. When you decide to trust Jesus and live His way, you have God’s Holy Spirit living inside you. That means that you have the power of GOD living inside of you. So you can be ready for anything!

“When you have a decision to make and it’s hard to know what to do, ask God to give you courage. If you find out some news that takes you by surprise, and you’re not sure what will happen next, talk to God about it. Talk to an adult who you trust that God has put in your life. God loves you and cares about everything that happens in your life. **You can trust God no matter what!**”

OFFERING TIME:

All this month, we have been bringing our money to support Vida Nueva Ministries in Piedras Negras, Mexico. Your offering helps people just like you to have the resources they need to experience a new life with Jesus! Here is a picture of our friends Eli and Mandy Garcia and their family...

SLIDE: Eli and Mandy

They are our friends and Parkview Global heroes that tell people about Jesus down in Mexico. So, if you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now while this video plays!

CG: Vida Nueva Ministries Video (Runtime: 2:00)