Session 9: October 30

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This week, boys and girls explored more of Esther's story. One of the king's leaders was an evil man named Haman. Haman developed an anger for Mordecai (Esther's guardian and cousin) and the Jews, so he went to the king and convinced the king to create a new law that would eradicate the Jewish people. When Mordecai heard of the plan, he asked Esther to go see the king and appeal to him for the Jewish people. After a few days of prayer and fasting, Esther bravely approached the king and invited him and Haman to a banquet. At a second banquet, Esther pleaded to the king for her life and the lives of her people. Read about the establishment of Purim in Esther 9:23-28. Then talk about the questions on the back of this week's Family Card.

BIBLE PASSAGE: Esther 3–8
MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 27:1
BIBLE VERSE: Psalm 56:3
OLDER KIDS TEXT TRUTH: God is sovereign—He rescued His people through Esther's obedience.
YOUNGER KIDS TEXT TRUTH: God rescued His people through Esther's obedience.

God Rescued His People
Esther 3–8

King Ahasuerus ruled the Persian Empire. He had chosen Esther to be his queen. One of the king's leaders was an evil man named Haman. Haman decided that he wanted to get rid of all of the Jewish people in the empire. So he made a plan, and he convinced the king to make his plan a law.

Now Queen Esther's cousin, Mordecai, heard about the new law and he was very upset. Mordecai sent a message to Esther. He told her about the new law. Esther was also Jewish, but the king did not know that. Mordecai begged Esther to go and see the king and try to save her people. Mordecai even told Esther that this might be the reason she had been picked to be queen—so she could save her people.

Esther knew that it was against the law to go see the king if he hadn't asked for you to come. But she knew that she had to go see him anyway. Esther put on her royal clothes, and she went to see the king. The king saw Esther, and he held out his scepter to Esther to show that she could come see him. Esther invited the king and Haman to a special banquet. The king and Haman went to the banquet. At the banquet, the king asked Esther to tell him what she wanted. He promised to give her anything, even half of the kingdom. Esther asked the king and Haman to come to another banquet.

Haman was very happy. The queen had invited him to a special banquet. The king had given him a special job in the kingdom, and his plan to get rid of Mordecai and the Jewish people was going to happen soon.

The king and Haman again came to a special feast prepared by Queen Esther. The king again told Esther, "Whatever you ask will be given to you."

This time Esther said, "If the king is pleased, spare my life and the lives of my people. We have been sold out to destruction and death."

"Who is the one who created this plan?" the king asked.

"Haman." Queen Esther answered.

The king was very angry. Haman was killed instead of the Jewish people. The king wrote a new law that would help the Jewish people protect themselves against the people who tried to kill them. Esther had interceded for and saved her people.