



Unit 12, Lesson 46

TODAY'S EPIC STORY: ESTHER ESTHER 1—4

THE STORY @ HOME

In today's Epic story, King Xerxes threw a royal banquet and asked Queen Vashti to come so he could show her off. She refused and he became very angry. At the suggestion of his advisors, King Xerxes took away Queen Vashti's royal position. The most beautiful single women were gathered and spent 12 months preparing to meet the king. King Xerxes liked Esther the best and chose her as queen. Esther was a Jew who had been adopted by her cousin Mordecai when her parents were killed. Mordecai told Esther that Haman had convinced the king to have all of the Jews killed because they worshiped God. Mordecai also encouraged Esther to speak to the king, even though it was against the law for her to go to him. Esther risked her life, talked to the king, and helped save the Jewish people from death.

PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- What are you wondering about this Epic story?
- What do you think it was like for Esther to keep her heritage a secret? Would it be difficult for you to live in another country and never mention that you're American?
- Mordecai said to Esther, "Who knows maybe you have become queen for such a time as this?" What did he mean? Do you agree with Mordecai?
- What does this Epic story tell us about God?

TOGETHER @ HOME

The process to becoming queen involved an entire year of pampering and preparation. Take a little time to pamper each other—boys included. Maybe some foot rubs, dinner while lounging on cushions, or pedicures are in order. You decide what form of pampering suits your tastes.

BIBLE MEMORY @ HOME

"The days are coming," declares the Lord, "When I will make a new covenant... I will be their God, and they will be my people." (Jeremiah 31:31, 33)

Decrees would have been read from a scroll. Write the Bible verse in large letters on a piece of paper. Then roll it up like a scroll. Take turns unrolling the scroll to read the verse in your best royal announcer voice.

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