



May 9/10, 2020 – Week 2 – Mother’s Day

Bible Story Focus: God loves me and has a plan for me. Esther • *Esther 2:2—8:17*

Memory Verse: “Nothing at all can ever separate us from God’s love.” Romans 8:39, NIV

Key Question: Who loves you?

Bottom Line: God loves me.

Basic Truth: God loves me.

Make It Fun

Two Step Plan

- **What You Do:** Have the children stand in front of you. Tell the children that you have a plan. Give them two step instructions. Instructions are: Jump then touch toes, raise arms then shake hands, march in place then freeze, and turn around and then sit down. Repeat as desired.
- **What You Say:** “We are going to do something fun! I have a PLAN! Please listen carefully to my plan. First, jump really high, then touch your toes. (*Demonstrate and do activity.*) Great job! Are you ready for more of my plan? (*Pause*) Here we go! Raise your arms, then shake your hands. (*Demonstrate and do activity.*) Way to go! Now, let’s march, then freeze! (*Demonstrate and do activity.*) We’re almost done with my plan! Everyone, turn around and sit down. (*Demonstrate and finish activity.*) You did a great job following my plan! Today, we will hear a Bible story about how God has a plan for all of us.”

Make It True

Worship

- **What You Need:** Worship song “God Loves Me Specially.”

Bible Story

- **LEADER:** “Hello, friends! Today’s true story from the Bible (*Hold up Bible.*) begins with a queen named, Esther! What was the queen’s name?”
- **CHILDREN:** “Esther!”
- **LEADER:** “Yes, Esther. Esther loved God. She knew that God loved her and had a plan for her. Next in the story is a man named Haman. What was his name?”
- **CHILDREN:** “Haman.”
- **LEADER:** “Great listening. Haman worked for the king but he did NOT love God. In fact, Haman had a plan to do something very mean to Esther’s family. One day, Haman told the king that he should get rid of a whole group of people! Doesn’t that sound terrible? (*Pause.*) It was! When Esther heard this, she was SO upset. The king didn’t know that the people Haman wanted to get rid of were Queen Esther’s friends and family! They loved God just like she did. Oh, no! That’s so sad. Everyone, show me your best sad face. (*Make a super sad face with the children.*) What should she do? Esther was scared that if she went to the king, he might get mad at her. But then. . . her cousin Mordecai came to tell her something. What was her cousin’s name?”
- **CHILDREN:** “Mordecai!”
- **LEADER:** “Yes! Mordecai reminded Esther that God loved her and had a plan for her. She could trust God. ‘God loves you, Esther,’ Mordecai said. ‘You’re special. You were made for this! So, Esther trusted God’s plan. She went to the king and asked him to save her friends and family. And

guess what? The king said, 'Yes!' Hurray! Way to go, Esther. God had a plan for Esther and God has a plan for you because God LOVES you. Tell me, **who loves you?**"

- **CHILDREN and LEADER: "God loves me!"**
- **LEADER:** "Yes, He does! God loved Esther and had a plan for her. God has a plan for each one of us. I'm SO glad to know that God loves you and **God loves me.** Let's pray."

Prayer

- **LEADER:** "God, You are such a good God! Thank You for Your plan for Esther. Thank You for the plans You have for each one of us. Your plan is the BEST plan because You love us! And we love You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."

Make It Stick

Crown

- **What You Need:** "Crown Label" labels, bulletin board border with scalloped edges, tape, and jewel stickers
- **What You Do:** Give each child a piece of border and the stickers. Help the child decorate the border with the stickers to make a crown. Place the label on the crown. Tape the crown at the ends around the child's head.
- **What You Say:** "Today, we heard an awesome Bible story about Queen Esther. We are going to make a crown just like Queen Esther's. *(Give each child a piece of border and the stickers.)* This will be your crown. Use the stickers to decorate your crown. *(Do activity.)* WOW! I love your crowns! God had a plan for Queen Esther, and He has a plan for us too! **Who loves you? God loves me!"**

Dismissal

King Says

- **What You Do:** Gather with children in an open area in the room. Play "King Says." Review the Bible story.
- **What You Say:** "Come over and sit with me. I have a fun game for us to play. It's a game where you have to listen for me to say, 'King says,' then do that thing. If I don't say, 'King says,' then keep still.

Ready? Okay. King says, 'stand up.' *(Pause.)* King says, 'give a friend a high five.' *(Pause.)* Sit down. *(Pause.)* I didn't say, 'King says.' King says, 'jump up and down.' *(Pause.)* King says, 'clap your hands.' *(Pause.)* Go to another part of the room. *(Pause.)* I didn't say, 'King says.' King says, 'show me your scared faces.' *(Pause.)* King says, 'show me your happy faces.' *(Pause.)* King says, 'be brave.' *(Pause.)* Great job, friends!"

After the Activity: "Today, in our story, we heard about a lady named Esther that had to go to the king and ask something very important, because what the king says, everyone does, just like in our game. That was so much fun! God had a plan for Esther and He has a plan for you, too! He loves you! **Who loves you? God loves me!"**